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Justice

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union  
(ILGWU)

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3-15-1943

## Justice (Vol. 25, Iss. 6)

International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU)

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## Justice (Vol. 25, Iss. 6)

### Keywords

International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, ILGWU, labor unions, clothing workers, textile workers, garment workers, garment industry, New York, United States

### Comments

*Justice* was the official publication of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union ILGWU from 1919 to 1995. Editions of *Justice* were published in English, Italian, Spanish, and Yiddish. When compared side by side, the content of some of these different editions of *Justice* shows significant differences. This is the English-language edition of *Justice*.

# JUSTICE

Published by the  
INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

Vol. XXV, No. 6.

Jersey City, N. J., March 15, 1943

Price 10 Cents

## \$800,000 INDICATED IN NEW YORK FOR ILGWU WAR RELIEF FUND DRIVE

**Dress Industry Accounts for More Than \$300,000 While Cloak Shops Pile Up Over \$250,000 in Incomplete Returns**

**Tallies for Miscellaneous New York Trades and for Markets and Localities Outside New York Will Be Published in Next Issue of "Justice"**

Exceeding all optimistic forecasts, at a period when countless civic, patriotic and emotional demands continue to exert heavy pressure upon the purses of every socially-minded element in the community, the ILGWU membership in Greater New York rose to traditional heights in responding to the call of their union for a War Relief Fund.

### Year's Worst Storm Finds Chi ILGWU at Work for War Relief

Despite the worst blizzard of the year, Chicago ILGWU members, in every branch of the women's wear industry, poured into their workshops on Saturday, March 6, to work a full-day for the War Relief Fund of their union.

A check of the shops, Vice President Bialis wrote, revealed that nearly 100 per cent answered the call of the union and worked. Even the clerical staffs at the union's offices remained on duty taking part in the drive.

Still incomplete accounts reaching the General Office of the ILGWU, President Dubinsky announced, show that the locals affiliated with the New York Cloak Joint Board yielded over \$250,000 from the day's work, while the locals of the Dress Joint Board reported more than \$300,000, each of the joint boards anticipating an additional \$50,000 after all returns are in. Both groups worked on Saturday, February 20.

The total for the entire country, while not yet certain, may reach one and a half million dollars, it is estimated. The fund will be allocated by the union's General Executive Board to the most important relief agencies in the United States and abroad, including USO, Red Cross, Joint Distribution Committee, Russian, British, China, Italian (refugee and underground work relief), and various domestic philanthropic and communal causes.

### In "Divine Form" for Relief

This is Alba Romano, "32" member, working in Divine Form Plant, 28 West 23rd Street, New York City, now making Navy blouses and Sailor Mess Jackets. She worked Saturday, March 6, together with all her shop mates for ILGWU Relief Fund.

## MONTREAL JUDGE INVALIDATES IDEAL DRESS CO. INJUNCTION

The drastic injunction issued in 1937 by a Montreal, Que., court to the Ideal Dress Co. of that city was ordered invalidated by Appeals Court Judge Surveur on March 8, according to a dispatch from Bernard Shane, ILGWU representative in the Quebec metropolis.

The 1937 strike against the Ideal Dress Company, which lasted several months, was one of the most stubbornly fought in Montreal garment history. Since then the union has sought repeatedly to have the writ removed as it demonstratively violated the elementary rights of labor peacefully to organize and to maintain a trade union. Some time ago, the Quebec Court of Appeals, in an important decision, held that the lower court had no right to issue such a drastic injunction but permitted the writ to continue in (Continued on Page 2)

## NLRB ORDERS ENTHUSE WINDY CITY STRKERS

The intermediate report of the National Labor Relations Board in the Tabin-Picker case, disestablishing the "union" organized with the aid of the firm and disavowing that company-nurtured outfit for the purposes of collective bargaining, sent a new wave of enthusiasm among the strikers, now out for more than three months.

Two discharged workers were also ordered reinstated by the Board and (Continued on Page 2)

## "99" MEMBER; AIR BOMBARDIER; DIES IN PACIFIC ACTION

Somewhere in the Southwest Pacific war area, Wendel V. Sokolovic, member of Ladies' Garment Workers' Union Local 99, gave his life in the fight against the enemies of democracy. His death in action was announced by the War Department on March 2 in the same casualty list which included the name of Meyer Levin.

At the time of his death, Wendel Sokolovic was 22 years old. He held the rank of Staff Sergeant and was a bombardier in the Air Corps. He had been a member of Local 99 for seven months when he enlisted at the age of 20. He came from a poor Jewish family living in New York's Maricopa.

### 1943 Red Cross Pins Go to All ILGWU Members, Donors to War Relief

All members of the ILGWU, in New York and in other cities, who have contributed a day's work to the union's War Relief Fund will receive a 1943 Red Cross Pin.

This pin attests to the wearer's membership in the Red Cross for the current year.

### Unity House Will Open 1943 Summer Season on May 30

To set all doubts aside, the Unity House committee of the International Union announced, after a meeting, on March 2 that Unity House at Forest Park, Pa., will carry on "as usual" in the summer of 1943.

It will be opened for business on Decoration Day, May 30, Alfred Tassin, Unity House manager, declared. More detailed information will be forthcoming in further issues of "Justice."

## ILGWU CHIEF IN STRONG APPEAL FOR RED CROSS

Conforming to its policy of hearty support of the American Red Cross, the ILGWU will this year respond with traditional generosity to the current campaign (Continued on Page 2)

### Fear - Sighted



## CORDE SHOPS RENEW PACTS WITH UNION

The Bonnas Embroiderers, Tuckers, Stitchers and Plesters, Local 66, ILGWU, signed a new agreement with the corde handbag manufacturers for Bonnas Embroidery operators to succeed the one that expired at the end of February. Manager Zachary L. Freedman announced last week. The new agreement provides for a 10 per cent increase on the piece-work rate for the embroiderers and a \$250 raise on the scale of the general workers.

An application to the NLRB for approval of the raise has been filed by the union jointly with the employees. Pending such approval, the difference in the pay will be held in escrow by Local 66.

### Donnelly Garment Trial On In K. C.

The Donnelly Garment Co. trial, which began in the Federal District court in Kansas City, Mo., on February 15 is proceeding apace.

The first three weeks have been consumed largely by the attorneys for the firm. The case is expected to last several more weeks.

## BLUSEMAKERS HAMMER OUT NEW PACT AFTER DRAIN-OUT PARLEYS

Several thousand members of Blouse and Waistmakers' Union, Local 25, International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, at a membership meeting held at New York's Webster Hall,

rattified on March 1, a proposed union pact granting them a 7 1/2 per cent wage increase. The agreement between Local 25 and the National Association of Blouse Manufacturers, reached after prolonged negotiations, has been submitted to the War Labor Board for approval of its wage provisions.

The agreement, according to Charles Kreindler, ILGWU vice president, was to become effective March 15, which funds covering the wage increase were to be placed in escrow pending WLB decision. The pact covers the blouse industry for the next three years, and the increase has been granted in both time and piece workers. The application to the Board has been made jointly by the union and the association of which H. H. Lerner is the executive director.

The membership meeting also approved a resolution calling upon the Local 25 membership to march March 6. Entire wages for that day were given to the ILGWU War Relief Fund which when completed is expected to exceed one million dollars.

## Chi Workers Give Insignia to Coast Guard Auxiliaries

Dr. Charles G. Irons, Commander of the 1st Division, 7th Flotilla of the U. S. Coast Guard Reserve, was a distinguished guest speaker at Local 21's membership meeting on February 12.

Dr. Irons made a moving plea to the local's women to join the Spars, the Women's Auxiliary of the Coast Guard. In appreciation of his appearance, Lucille Winsted, secretary of the local, presented the commander a beautifully embroidered emblem of the Coast Guard Auxiliary Insignia, made by Local 21's members. The commander was very much impressed by the enthusiasm and spirit displayed by the union members.

Abraham Plotkin, ILGWU general organizer in the Midwest, also strongly pointed up the urgency of contributing a day's wages to the union's War Relief Fund. The members unanimously approved Brother Plotkin's plea.

George Paris, manager of the local, still finds time to be a member of the Coast Guard Auxiliary, as well as attend to his union duties.

The Tories have launched their spring effort against labor rather early. Unless this reactionary drive is halted now, the conditions of the American people as a whole, and of labor in particular, will get progressively worse.

## "Lost in Action"

## LOCAL 20 MEMBERS GIVE DAY FOR ILG WAR RELIEF FUND

Remaining at their machines on Saturday, March 13, to turn out a steady stream of raincoats, members of the Waterproof Garment Workers' Union, struck a double blow for democracy by donating their entire wages for the day to the ILGWU War Relief Fund and by increasing the stock of raincoats many of which are destined to be worn by fighters in the U. S. armed forces.

The decision to contribute the day's work was made at the local's membership meeting on March 4. Local 20 members also heard Manager Joseph Kessler report on conditions in the industry which he called healthy.

The Local 20 executive board has responded favorably to a request from Vice President Elias Reisberg, director of the Cotton Garment Department, that Kessler be released for part time service to aid in that department's out-of-town organizational campaign. Kessler will devote his time to the War Relief Fund Local 20 drive in New York City, in the afternoon, P. M., at the

## He Came to Listen, to Learn



President Dubinsky of General Organizer Bernardis, AFL-CIO, general secretary of the Chile Confederation of Workers, visited ILGWU headquarters March 8.

## MONTREAL JUDGE VALIDATES IDEAL DRESS CO. UNION

(Continued from Page 1)

a milder form. The union, however, recently appealed again to Judge Surveley to dismiss the writ in its entirety, and the judge granted the union's motion last week after lengthy hearings.

### Dress Pact Renewed

Another important Montreal development reported by General Organizer Shana was the renewal of the dressmaker agreement for one year to expire on April 1, 1944. The document, which is a legal instrument for the entire industry under a special act passed by the Quebec Legislature was signed despite a protest by some die-hard non-union cotton dress manufacturers. The Minister of Labor disregarded their protest and approved the contract. It is quite likely that the Minister of Labor may now eliminate the representatives of those cotton dress firms from the joint committee charged with supervising the act.

## "63," CINCINNATI WORKED FOR RELIEF

Cincinnati Local 63 has come through loyally with the day's pay contribution to the ILGWU War Relief Fund and the Cincinnati War Chest, writes Manager David Solomon to "Justice".

A total of \$2,208.50 was raised there and turned over to the union fund.

Cigs For Overseas Members of Local 63 are conducting a campaign in the shops to raise money for the purchase of cigarettes to be sent overseas to the boys in the armed forces.

Cincinnati members will add their own contribution to the Red Cross Drive in addition to the ILGWU allotment. Quite a number have enlisted as regular blood donors.

All Cincinnati shops are very busy. Overtime has been permitted in the shops due to a shortage of help.

## Graduation Exercises ILGWU

### Women's Service Brigade

Wednesday, March 17 7 P.M.

Labor Stage 106 West 23rd Street

## CLINIC FOR MENTAL CASES NOW OPEN AT ILG HEALTH CENTER

The opening of a psychiatric department at the Union Health Center, owned by the ILGWU and located at 275 Seventh Avenue, New York City, was announced last week by Dr. Leo Price, director.

This marks another important step in the development of what has come to be regarded as the premier American clinic owned and operated by a labor organization. In commenting upon this significant event, Miss Pauline Newman, public relations officer of this health institution, said:

"The need for such a department in the Health Center was always felt; it is more so now. Hitler's murders in Europe have had a terrible effect on so many of our members whose relatives are among his victims. The excitement of the war has, naturally, added to the mental and emotional strain of our people whose children and kin are in the armed forces."

Dr. Price further added: "People in the low income groups can hardly afford the cost of individual medical care in psychiatric cases. That's one of the chief reasons why we have sought to make it available to our people at the Health Center. It is within their reach now. Information and advice on this matter will be gladly furnished to them at the Center."

## TABIN-PICKER STRIKERS HAIL NLRB ORDER

(Continued from Page 1)

The strikers had another reason to feel jubilant in the dismissal of plant superintendent King who got fired because "he could not break the strike or the spirit of the strikers," advises from Chicago state. Company spokesmen are now "whining for courage," the strikers say, by making public statements that the NLRB decision "will not hamper their operations" and that all is "close to normal." This optimism, however, does not in the least tally with the true picture in the shop-strike leaders assert.

## ILGWU Chief in Red Cross Appeal

(Continued from Page 1)

of that great American relief organization, President Dubinsky declared last week. "More than ever in this year of national emergency," the ILGWU chief said, "is the Red Cross entitled to the widest support by all elements in the greater American community. Labor, too, is becoming Red Cross conscious. We cannot, indeed, fail to appreciate the magnificent work carried on by this world-wide institution of mercy and relief both on the fighting fronts and at home."

"Our members, who are giving a day's work to their union's War Relief Fund, are aware that a share of their contribution will go to the Red Cross and they are happy about it because they share in the general recognition of the magnitude of the task confronting the Red Cross in wartime as well as in days of peace."

## Can You See That \$10,000?

Don't See The Way, Looking At Yours, What You're Really Doing, What You're Really Doing, What You're Really Doing.

No. 1171 A

New York, N.Y.

Don't See The Way, Looking At Yours, What You're Really Doing, What You're Really Doing, What You're Really Doing.

The National Survey of Unemployment

Don't See The Way, Looking At Yours, What You're Really Doing, What You're Really Doing, What You're Really Doing.

Don't See The Way, Looking At Yours, What You're Really Doing, What You're Really Doing, What You're Really Doing.

Don't See The Way, Looking At Yours, What You're Really Doing, What You're Really Doing, What You're Really Doing.

A "small" check from a "small" local — "105's" contribution from Vice President Heller's Snowflakes to ILGWU Relief Fund.

# PHILA. HEALTH FUND STARTS WORK; MEETED HEADS CENTER

Isidore Melamed, for the past eight years business agent of Local 50, Philadelphia Waist and Dressmakers' Union, became director of the Health Insurance Fund recently established in that market.

Abraham Leberstein, who has been active in the Philadelphia union for many years, was selected by the membership of Local 50 to fill Melamed's place for the remainder of the term.

Melamed's experience in union affairs is recognized, well to be a valuable asset to the Health Insurance Department. The new institution—the Health Center—will be housed in a large building recently purchased by the union. The Center's medical staff will include some of the physicians in the city and it will be equipped to meet every diagnostic need.

Local 50, at a meeting in February, also elected a Health Insurance Fund Committee to administer its full program. Four sub-committees, on the Health Center, on Sick Benefits, on Vacations, and on Appointments, were chosen, with Albert Aroff as chairman, and Rose Meiff, chairlady of Local 15, as secretary.

The Sick Benefit fund already is in working form, it was announced, and members are now beginning to receive benefits. Each of the Joint Board locals is represented on the main Fund Committee by two members.

## Protest Woodward Bill

Representatives of the Philadelphia Waist and Dress Joint Board joined a large delegation, from labor unions throughout Pennsylvania to appear before the State Senate Committee on Labor and Industry in protest against the Woodward Bill recently introduced in the Keystone State Legislature.

The bill requires each labor union to furnish to the State Secretary of Labor a certified copy of its membership rolls, to make a yearly report of all income items received and of all expenditures made, and to make union documents available for public inspection. Penalties for non-compliance are attached to the bill.

The trade union movement of Pennsylvania is united in opposition to the Woodward Bill.

## Blood Bank Donations

Members of the Philadelphia Joint Board have made a substantial contribution to the Red Cross blood bank.

Twenty members of the Penn Garment shop made a group arrangement last week, and each gave a pint of blood.

It is hoped that every capable person will answer this call to help our fighting men. This blood bank is a vital part of our war effort. In countless cases it means the difference between life and death for our men on the war fronts.

## Learn About South

Chairladies, shop committees and a number of Philadelphia active women in the waist and dress industry had an opportunity last month to listen to an instructive

address by John R. Butler, former president of the Tenant Farmers Union, on the economic situation in the South.

After the meeting, a large group attended a showing of "Native Land," a film picturing the results of the LaPallette Civil Liberties Investigating Committee. Actual scenes of violence employed by enemies of the trade unions in the South against workers and the fight of the 20 people in that area for the right to organize into unions of their own choosing, were shown.

## Pay Tribute To Syme

H. Herbert Syme, Philadelphia ILGWU attorney, spoke last week before the members of the Dress Joint Board following several favorable decisions obtained by him from the War Labor Board.

The appreciation of the Philadelphia ILGWU to Mr. Syme for his excellent work in securing fair and far-reaching interpretations, was expressed at that meeting in a decision to present to him a plaque as a token of esteem.

## Nutrition Class

The union's nutrition class is attracting a great deal of attention throughout the city. This is the first industrial group in Philadelphia to take up the study of nutrition and it is being closely watched by educational and scientific leaders. Members find this class both interesting and constructive.

## A Great Night for Fighting China



## WORKERS WELCOME "OVER-COUNTER" LIFE INSURANCE

The primary purpose of life insurance has been to provide protection to families and dependents in the event of the removal by death of the breadwinner. Yet until recently, prohibitive costs of life insurance made it nearly available to those who needed it most.

Back in 1927, the late Justice Louis D. Brandeis originated Savings Bank Life Insurance in Massachusetts as a constructive means of providing life insurance at the lowest possible cost to the people of that state. More than 30 years later, in what he considered "one of the important enactments of my administration," President Franklin D. Roosevelt convinced the New York State Legislature of the advisability of establishing Savings Bank Life Insurance in that state. Such policies are now also sold in Connecticut

## Back Pay - In Good Old Chicago Way



Shown above are ILGWU vice president Morris Bialis and Sam Glassman, manager of Locals 76 and 261, Chicago, and Jerry Smoler of Smoler Bros., Inc. There are smiles all around as Miss Bongard, Emma Kribley, Rosanna Klein, Jeanette Flisar and Betty Ellison exhibit back pay checks obtained as result of WLB decision.

## DUBINSKY PLEADS FOR GREATER AID TO CHINA IN GARDEN SPEECH

Address Delivered by David Dubinsky, ILGWU President, at Testimonial Meeting Rendered by a Citizens' Committee to Mme. Chiang Kai-shek, March 2, 1943, at Madison Square Garden, New York City.

In the past few years, the Western world has discovered a new China. If it is true that character, virtue and integrity as applied to an individual as well as to an en-

tire nation can best be tested under fire and trial, the Chinese people, the oldest nation on earth, have amply demonstrated that they are among the great nations of the world.

China has been at war virtually ten years longer than our country. From the very moment Japan plunged a dagger into the heart of China and ever since Nazism has raised its ugly head, American labor was unanimous in its firm opposition to giving the Japanese or any other aggressor any scrap iron, oil or other war supplies.

Today, we of the American labor movement regard the Chinese workers as a member of the great Chinese democracy and of the great democratic army of the world fighting for security and for the right to live and to let other nations live in peace. There were promising beginnings of a labor movement in China, beginnings of organized social services and of a widespread industrial cooperative movement before the Japanese invasion. Bill even during the Japanese invasion the Chinese industrial cooperatives have continued to grow. In fact, they have served as a substantial source of armament production for the Chinese military forces as well as the civilians.

American labor stands four-square with President Roosevelt in his historic declaration for extending and applying the principles of the Atlantic Charter to the peoples of the Pacific. But we must also extend and apply the principle of equality of China as a nation among nations to equal treatment of the Chinese along with all others in the life of our country at home.

When victory is finally won and China regains her opportunity for greater economic and social development, the great mass of Chinese labor will take its place alongside the free workers of the United States and all other democratic na-

tions, as part of a better, happier, post-war world, with equal opportunities for organization and progress.

It is not enough for us to admire and applaud our Chinese comrades in arms. I know I am voicing the thoughts and feelings of the millions of American soldiers of production now turning out the finest and deadliest tools of victory when I say that it is our supreme duty to give the heroic Chinese people ever greater military support, ever greater assistance in their struggle. It is NOW and TODAY that we must meet a sacred obligation long overdue to our best friend in Asia.

I am sure that the visit and efforts of China's First Lady will bring prompt and proper results to ward hastening our common triumph. It is this assurance that I desire to convey to our noble guest this evening. We desire that she take back with her this expression of faith and confidence that the organized workers in our country have in the great cause of China, this solemn pledge to increase manifold our assistance to her fighting armies—until victory is won, the victory of civilization over barbarism throughout the world.

## Keeps Figures



Norma Cannon Nichols, financial secretary, Local 336, Forest City company workers in St. Louis.

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**Convenient Security**  
FOR YOUR SAVINGS

**NORTH RIVER SAVINGS BANK**  
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Between 7th and 8th Aves., N.Y.C.

FOR VICTORY - SAVE IN A SAVINGS ACCOUNT  
...Buy War Bonds

# "Little International"

## THE COUNCIL OF DISTRICT

By GEORGE RUBIN, V.P.

### Mannish Suits

The "mannish suit" drive in Newark and vicinity is moving ahead. Within a short time we have been able to overcome many obstacles and to organize several of these shops, thanks to the hard work of Organizers Talbot and Villano.

Following many shop meetings and the election shop chairmen and committees, we called these chairmen and committees to a meeting at the Alexander Hall in Newark, N. J. Arrangements were made to organize an executive board and to open an office centrally located to control the "mannish suit" drive in this territory.

At that meeting, it is worth noting, the communication sent by the CIO regarding a day's pay for the War Relief Fund was read and the workers, despite the fact that they had just recently been organized, pledged themselves to work a full day for it.

It was really very gratifying to receive such a response from these newly sworn members. We now expect our organization work in this field to proceed at a fast pace until all workers producing mannish suits in this territory have come within the ILGWU fold.

### D & R Clothing Co.

This shop located in Passaic, N. J., is working on army field jackets and overcoats. We have encountered difficulties in this plant a number of times due largely to the prevalence of weak work. A change to piece work was, therefore, decided upon and we have learned that most government contract shops are working harmoniously under the latter system.

This change may not be an easy one to carry out at the start but since this shop is a very large one and has been working on a week work basis for many years. But we feel sure that, if these workers will accept this new system of work a fair trial, it will do away with most of the troubles existing in this plant. Brother Wallich, the business agent covering this shop, we know, will take proper care of all necessary adjustments.

## URGE POSNER STAY ON JERSEY STATE MEDIATION BOARD

The reappointment of Harry Posner, manager of Local 149, Plainfield, N. J., to the State Mediation Board is being vigorously urged by organized labor in New Jersey. Both AFL and CIO bodies are asking for Senate confirmation of Governor Bilson's reappointment of Posner.

Additional support for Posner came last month after a meeting of the executive board of the New Jersey CIO Council. Irving Abramson, president of the Council, pledged CIO cooperation with the AFL in behalf of a man who "did a fine job for labor as our representative on the mediation board."

### Camco, of Newark, Renews Contract

The agreement with the Camco Manufacturing Company of Newark, N. J., formerly the Lipette Co., has been renewed, reports Herman Sirote, manager of Local 166.

Many gains for the workers are included in the renewed pact, also improvements of the vacation-with-pay fund.

## BRIDGEPORT MAYOR LAUDS ILGWU MEMBERS FOR "GENEROUS SPIRIT"

More than 250 ILGWU members of Locals 152 and 223, in Bridgeport, Conn., took time out from their home-making duties to attend a meeting addressed by Mayor Jasper McLevy at which the Connecticut public official had high praise for the union's relief campaign. "We need no convincing as to the work that agencies which will benefit from your drive are doing. The action of your executive board cannot be too highly praised," he said. The meeting was held February 18.

Others who spoke included Samuel O. Janis, ILGWU organizer, who explained the work of the fund; George M. Treager, executive secretary of the Community Chest; Hedwig Ebenberg, former ILGWU officer in Dallas, Tex., and now assistant director of the UNO and Howard Constock of the American Red Cross.

On the same evening garment workers in Middletown, N. Y., members of Local 156, employed at the Charwell Underwear Corp., were listening to Hudson Valley Director Motion Goodman outline the savings of effort and money that would result from the drive for a unified relief fund. Goodman and Myron Alving, representing the firm, were named members of a committee to supervise the collection and allocation of the fund.

### Two New Contracts Added to EOT List

The signing of two agreements with two newly organized shops bringing gains to more than 100 workers was reported last week by the Eastern Out-of-Town Department.

In Bayonne, N. J., the Andrew Mochl Gown Company, manufacturers of underwear, signed a union pact giving \$1.50 increases to operators and \$1 raises to the utility workers. Abe Bekky negotiated for the ILGWU. The contract includes provision for vacations with pay along the line of the Local 62 agreements.

The Jersey Corp., Astoria, L. I., making neckwear and novelties, signed an agreement which establishes vacations with pay and gives a 4% increase to its employees. A 3 1/4 hour week is to be established after June 1. Jack Grossman negotiated.

Both contracts are subject to War Labor Board approval.

### "Come Back, Hale and Hearty!"



Mother and wife—and a large group of members from his organization, Locals 166 and 222, Newark, N. J.—wished Jerome Gonser, union organizer for 7 years, farewell and happy return as he left for Italy.

## ANSWERING THE CALL

Westchester, Long Island Locals Come Through Splendidly for War Relief Fund—Others Ready to Do Their Bit

By HARRY WANDER, V.P.  
General Manager, Eastern Out-of-Town Department

Many of the Out-of-Town locals are at present engaged in collecting the day's wages which are their contributions to the War Relief Fund which the ILGWU is raising to meet relief needs at home and abroad. Reports coming into the Department's office indicate that the majority of our members have already worked for the day's wages. Most of them remained in the shops either on Washington's Birthday or on Saturday, February 27 to make their contribution to this most humanitarian cause.

Several locals, however, have not as yet worked their day for the Fund. This is no reflection on their desire to make the contribution. In almost every case in which this has not yet been done the reason is that there is not enough work in the shop to supply the sixth day which could contribute to the fund. There are also cases in which the work day for the Fund has been postponed because plants have been poorly heated due to oil shortage.

Through the first locals to come through have been all the Eastern Out-of-Town Department locals in Long Island, Westchester and New York and some of the locals in New Jersey.

Check from these locals are coming into the office in one steady stream and we are proud to say that in these localities it looks like 100 per cent compliance with the CIO's directive.

But while it is pleasant to mention those locals which have responded so quickly to this appeal, an appeal which is made by the ILGWU in behalf of those who are suffering most from the consequences of war, it must also be stated that some locals are taking their time in getting around to the day's work. This seems to be true in some of the localities where workers have only recently been organized.

Such laxity is not surprising. Union membership brings with it workers' education. Only a short time in the union is necessary before a worker learns that the plea of the War Relief Fund is something that is not to be denied or delayed; that fellow workers are suffering here and now; that making the contribution to the War Relief Fund now instead of a month later may mean the difference between life and death for some of our brave brothers on the other side who are fighting for us.

I have no doubt that our younger members will quickly learn this lesson. And I know that, as has been the case in the past, they will make up for their slowness in the spirit and size of their contributions.

An agreement between the Undergarment and Lingerie Workers' Union, Local 62, ILGWU, and the various associations in that industry, for a five per cent increase in wages for all the workers in New York and out-of-town shops working for New York manufacturers or jobbers, went into effect beginning with the week of February 22, pending approval by the War Labor Board. The amount of this "5c" increase will be set aside each pay day to be held in escrow until such time as this fund can be distributed to the individual workers.

Arrangements have been made by the union to keep payroll records of all these out-of-town shops, but we also ask the workers to keep their own individual payroll records so that we may be able to double-check when the distribution will have to be made.

The Housewares' Union, Local 25, ILGWU, has reached an agreement with the association in that industry granting a 7 1/4 per cent increase to go into effect beginning with the week of March 15, subject to the approval of the War Labor Board. This increase will apply to the out-of-town workers employed by New York jobbers or manufacturers, as well.

### Chairlady Phoenix Dress, Hartford, Joins Wave



Julia Luccardi, chairlady of the Phoenix Dress Company of Hartford, Conn., is the latest member of the Eastern Out-of-Town Department to join the War. Julia left for service on March 8.

## MONEY STREAMS FOR WAR RELIEF

Shops throughout the Eastern Out-of-Town Department continued to swell the ILGWU War Relief Fund with contributions of hard cash flowing in one steady stream into the Department's central office. Shops reporting in the last two weeks and the amounts of their contributions are listed below:

Long Island Locals—Oscar Reizer, \$291.55; Nat. Modell, \$236; Renee Roberts, \$163.89; L. Wender, \$309.19; Joe Day, \$169.27; Drago, Dress, \$313.06; Mead Park Dress, \$291.97; Stone Dress, \$58.17; Eagle Dress, \$56; Zucker Dress, \$102.80; Silberberg & Son, \$223.50; J. Rabinowitz, \$154.91; S. Waller, \$280.19; Belmonte Dress, \$264.30; Alroy Spindel, \$162.25; D. N. Dress, \$159.83; Glen Sportswear, \$132.46; Grove Mill, \$231.53; Jennie Lane Dress, \$69.17; Pommeroy Dress, \$185; Queens Co. W. & Dr., \$42.50; Henry Reiser Dress, \$223; Mr. Henry Reiser, \$25; S. H. Novsky, \$157.94; M. & W. Stuhlbaum, \$100; M. Ostalla, \$119.31; A & J Dress \$228; Jennie Spada, \$174.08.

Local 145, Mt. Vernon—Geneva Dress, \$71.41.  
Local 148, Union City—Sportswear Dress, \$300; Reich Dress, \$96.61; Salmor Dress, \$743; Kozan—Negligee, \$60.35.

Orange Local—B & B Mfg. \$170; Sherman Mfg. \$619.20.

Special mention should be made of the fact that Morris Sherman of the Sherman Mfg. Co., Orange, N. J., made a personal contribution of \$100 toward this worthy cause.

## INWOOD, L. I., FIRM CONCEDES ALL-OVER RAISE OF PAY RATE

A five per cent increase for piece workers and a \$2 increase for week workers have been negotiated by Assistant Manager Israel Horowitz of the Eastern Out-of-Town Department for the workers of the Nassau Brassiere Co. of Inwood, L. I. WLB approval is being sought.

# DRESSMAKERS SECTION

## NEWS OF THE DRESS JOINT BOARD AND AFFILIATED LOCALS

### UNION ACCOUNTANTS RECOVER \$208,000 IN BACK PAY CASH

All of a union's fighting is not done on the picket line. The accountant, too, does his share in protecting union standards, in securing for the worker the earnings he is entitled to under the collective agreement. The union accountant's work of patient checking and investigation may not be as glamorous as that of the policeman or the detective, but it is vital to the effective functioning of the organization.

A report on the activities of the accounting department of the New York Dress Joint Board for 1942, submitted last week by J. Wurman, manager of the department, throws considerable light on this little known aspect of union activity. The accounting department, Manager Wurman reports, conducts investigations of several types. Its staff of 16 men makes regular and complete audits, special investigations on specific complaints, price-range checks on selling prices of certain style numbers, and investigations of new firms to discover hidden business connections. The union is permitted to make these investigations under a clause of the agreement which gives it access to the books of the employers. There are many kinds of violations which can be determined only by a careful examination of the firm's books. Frequently the workers themselves are not even aware that they have been cheated out of part of their earnings until the union's investigators uncover the fraud through checking and rechecking the books.

Investigations are made either as a result of specific complaint against a particular firm by a worker or union officer or else as a matter of routine. Investigations resulting from complaints, which in 1942 amounted to about 25 per cent of the total, naturally have priority and are made without delay. It is the object of the department to cover the entire industry every year, but the staff of 16 men is hardly big enough for that. A large part of the industry is covered, however, particularly the sections most given to violations.

In the course of 1942, 391 audits of jobbers and manufacturers and 74 of contractors were made. Almost as many (355) minor price-range investigations were conducted. In addition, 127 new firms were investigated.

Special emphasis was placed on the firms in the \$5.50 and below price range where violations are most frequent; almost 80 per cent of these firms were looked into. Firms known as chronic violators were examined more frequently, sometimes two or even three times during the year.

### Attention

Please examine the membership dues cards of all workers in your shop to make sure that they are members of the union.

Any worker who is not a member of the union, no matter what his craft, should be sent to the union office immediately to join the union.

Shop chairman: It is your responsibility to see to it that these instructions are strictly enforced.

**JOINT BOARD**  
Dress and Waistmakers  
Union, ILGWU.

### ILGWU Fund Covers Red Cross Donation, Dressmakers Told

Some dress shops in New York City have received early this month letters from the New York Labor War Chest, AFWA, calling upon them for Red Cross contributions. The letters are signed

### OVER \$300,000 ALREADY IN FROM DRESS SHOPS FOR ILGWU WAR AID FUND; \$50,000 MORE EXPECTED

Over \$300,000 has already been contributed by New York dress-workers to the War Relief Fund of the ILGWU, Nathanial

M. Minkoff, secretary-treasurer of the New York Dress Joint Board reported last week. Probably another \$50,000 will be added to this sum within a short time, Brother Minkoff said.

The \$300,000 total was made up of contributions of a day's wages by dressmakers from nearly 1,500 shops in the city, the report indicated. The industry continued operations on Saturday, February 20, 1943, so as to enable workers to make this contribution.

To stimulate the effort, the Joint Board issued several communications to shop chairmen as well as a circular widely distributed among the dressmakers in the market. These appeals stressed the immensely important causes which the War Relief Fund was designed to aid—the American Red Cross, the USO, the Army and Navy Relief, the British, Russian and Chinese relief organizations, hospitals and charity institutions at home, etc.

### WLB Approves 10% Raise For Jolly Kids Garment

An increase of 10 per cent in the wage of the employees of the Jolly Kids Garment Manufacturing Co., Belding and Kalamazoo, Mich., involving about 90 workers, was approved unanimously by the National War Labor Board. The increase, agreed to by the company, will average about five cents per hour, and is retroactive to October 12, 1942.

### Saturday Work in Chicago Dress Firms First Time in 10 Years

For the first time in ten years, factories in the Chicago dress market generally are working Saturdays. This arrangement was made between the ILGWU and the Chicago Dress Manufacturers' Association to help solve the production problem.

### ADDRESSES OF MEMBERS' KIN IN SERVICES WANTED BY "22"

Dressmakers' Union Local 22 issued an urgent appeal last week to all local members to inform the office of any son, daughter or husband they may have in the armed services. "The union is deeply interested in members or relatives of members in uniform," Vice President Charles S. Zimmerman, manager of Local 22, said. "We want to keep in touch with them and do something for them when

we can. We have sent gifts to our members in the forces on several occasions and we are thinking of doing something similar for relatives of members in the service. That is why we are very eager to have their names."

Local 22 members are urged to send in names of relatives in the armed forces immediately. The blank contained in the following appeal may be used.

### ATTENTION Local 22 Members

If you have a son, daughter or husband in our armed forces  
**We wish to know about it!**

Clip and fill out this form and mail to  
Local 22, ILGWU  
218 West 40th Street, New York City.

MEMBER'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_ Ledger No. \_\_\_\_\_  
NAME OF PERSON IN SERVICE \_\_\_\_\_  
Rel. \_\_\_\_\_ Husband \_\_\_\_\_  
Daughter \_\_\_\_\_ (Check which)  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

We have sent packages and an occasional check to members of our union who are in the armed forces. We are also planning to do something for our member's children or husbands in the service.

**Charles S. Zimmerman**  
Secretary-Manager

### Another Union Stalwart Leaves for the War



A bunch of "22" staff folks foregather at a farewell party to Rhys Levine (with flowers on left of Charles Zimmerman) who left for Wasc camp at Oglethorpe, Ga., on March 10. In upper right corner is Bernice Wallit, "22" office assistant who is leaving for the Army in a few days.

Of the 467 regular investigations made through the year, 160 or 34 per cent, revealed major violations. Misrepresentation of selling price of garments—resulting in a reduction of workers' piece rates which are geared to selling price—accounted for the big bulk of these cases, altogether 127. Direct underpayments to workers accounted for another 26; false books for 14; non-union or non-registered contractors for 7; and other violations for 2. These include only major cases resulting in the collection of money from the guilty employer; minor cases, disposed of by the issuance of instructions or warnings, are not listed.

As a result of this persistent, tireless work the Joint Board was able to regain from employers convicted of violations more than \$208,000 as compensation for underpayments, liquidated damages, etc.—the great bulk of it going back to the workers from whose pockets it had been taken by fraud and trickery. Most of the cases were settled through negotiations with the employers' associations involved.

by James C. Quinn, secretary of the Chest.

It is quite evident that these communications are just form letters. Still, some employers have made attempts to make collections from union members in their shops on the strength of these letters.

In view of the fact that the day-pay drive initiated by the ILGWU with remarkable success in nearly all the dress shops in New York City already covers an appropriate allocation for the Red Cross, union members are advised that they do not have to make any further contributions to the Red Cross through the solicitation of their employers.

some after argument before the impartial chairman, and a few not until awards had actually been made by the impartial chairman. In every case, it required all the vigilance and skill of the accounting staff to detect the violations and accumulate adequate evidence to bring the violating firm to terms. Truly all of a union's fighting is not done on the picket line!

### Like Father, Like Son



Proud Papa Max Cohen—he is New York dress pressers' manager and ILGWU vice president—wraps a mighty and loving arm over a mighty young shoulder of his 18-year-old Harold Cohen as the latter leaves for Army service this week-end.

# TODAY AND TOMORROW

By LUIGI ANTONINI  
General Secretary, Local 89

In America we are confronted with a well-planned and well-financed campaign to smear organized labor. Its obvious aim is to create public support for anti-labor legislation pending in Congress and in State Legislatures. The same gentlemen who made such a big noise against the \$25,000 ceiling on salaries are most vociferous in asking more and more sacrifices from labor. Once made these sacrifices are quickly forgotten. The labor batters start all over again with new charges and new smearing attempts.

In the history of American strikes never so few as now, but the drive against labor goes on unabated.

Never has American labor proved so important to the nation as during this war, and never was its contribution in men for the fighting forces, in toll on the assembly lines, in money to the relief agencies as great as now; but the campaign of hate against American labor becomes more vicious than ever.

Not long ago a famous radio commentator was chosen for the job of scaring the American people by saying that America was losing the war because of labor's insistence on the 40-hour week. It was later shown that almost all of our war industries were already operating on a much longer working week.

The enemies of American labor have now chosen for the same job a famous flyer of the first World War. I am referring to Captain Eddie Rickenbacker. We never knew this gentleman had talent for economics. We never knew he had talent for politics. We never knew he had talent for sociology. We never knew he had talent for philosophy. We never knew he was an expert on industrial relations. We knew him only as one of our first great fliers and we all rejoiced when a few months ago he was saved from death, together with his companions, somewhere in the South Pacific.

His last adventure made him more famous. But we now see that his fame is being used to stir up hatred against American labor.

His recent speech, delivered at a joint session of the New York State Legislature in Albany, was deliberately made to foment discord among our people. Rightly disgusted, labor's representatives have asked for the privilege of addressing the Legislature to reply point by point to Mr. Rickenbacker.

A letter to legislative leaders said that "if labor is not given the opportunity to answer the unwarranted attack upon organized labor, the responsibility for the resulting

disunity now by this labor batters must be borne by the members of the State Legislature." The letter was signed by 25 heads of labor organizations in the Capital district of Albany.

In a statement to the press, E. W. Edwards, secretary of the New York State Federation of Labor, said that the Rickenbacker speech was "a premeditated attack on organized labor for the purpose of poisoning the minds of the public against labor unions."

The State organization of the CIO joined in the protest through Gustave A. Strebel, its president, who said that Rickenbacker's speech "abounded with half truths, actual misrepresentations and appeals to class prejudice of the worst type. It is keenly felt that such a speech at such a time and place was woefully out of place."

We think it would be a mistake to consider this new Rickenbacker incident as a personal issue.

There is no longer any doubt that powerful forces are maneuvering to split our nation and enslave the workers of America.

This is a national issue. Labor must be prepared to fight against its enemies on a national scale.

Labor must not remain merely on the defensive. It must prepare and launch its own offensive against its enemies who are at the same time the worst enemies of American democracy.

## Excerpts from Letters By "89" Soldiers

PRIVATE SILVIO GUARINO writes: "I really make me feel happy to know how you all think of us members who are in the service. In fact, I don't know how to thank you for your kind generosity. I will fight and pray for a victorious day, when we all can unite and live in our freedom again."

PRIVATE WILLIAM CAPRIO: "Just a few lines to let you know that I am getting along fine. The rats are good and plenty. I have gained eight pounds. Anthony Calidreila, from my firm, Petrucci Moler, is in the army. I may see him some day. Well, I guess I will close this time by just saying that it is indeed a privilege to fight for America. It is a great country."

CORPORAL D. MANTOLLO: "Let me also say that as long as we soldiers at the far-flung outposts of the world have such gallant people in back of us, we cannot but help defeat the enemy. Yours is the bigger job and you are doing fine work. In closing, I can only repeat what you said: 'Yours for a quick, safe and victorious return.'"

Let your answer to bombs be bonds.

# OVER 3,000,000 WOMEN IN TRADE UNIONS ALREADY

By Mary Anderson  
Director Women's Bureau,  
U. S. Dept. of Labor

To women workers the year 1943 brings the greatest challenge they have ever faced in the nation's history. The blue print for war materials calls for double the 1942 quotas. As shortages of men workers become increasingly acute, more and more women must be recruited for essential war and civilian jobs. At least 3 million more women must be added to the 15½ million women now in the labor force.

After we got into the war the change in the attitude of men—both labor and management—towards women as workers in war plants seemed miraculously sudden. But the real miracle is the way women have seized opportunities, acquired new skills, tackled effectively and efficiently all available war jobs.

Take the aircraft industry. In the spring of 1941 the Women's Bureau found women were not wanted. After a year of war 150,000 women were so employed, and by the end of this year it is expected that they will outnumber men. Women are now at work on most operations in the making of all the different kinds of planes—from the Mustang and Lightning to the Flying Fortress and Liberator.

Women are at work on gas masks, parachutes, rubber rafts—jeeps, trucks, ambulances—bullet, shell, bombs—rifles, guns, cannons. In ordnance plants but few women were employed before the war. Last September they constituted a fifth of the force, while in other war industries, (electrical machinery, instruments, small arms ammunition, rubber products) around a third of the workers, and in the manufacture of communications equipment, almost a half were women. In "other ammunition," electrical equipment, chemicals and explosives, and fire arms, the woman force was approximately a fourth of the employees.

The iron and steel industry is opening its doors more widely to women. And women have gained a substantial foothold in machine tool shops for the first time since World War I. Shipbuilding has relinquished its all-male tradition. Growing numbers of women are helping to make naval and Liberty ships on all our coasts. The Navy Yard pioneered in the hiring of women, the Brooklyn yard employing them for the first time in its 141 years of existence.

We feel that one of the secret new weapons evolved in our country in the past year is the all-out effort of women as valiant and valuable soldiers of prosperity. And their men behind the guns. Most assuredly women on unknown heroines on the labor fronts are making important contributions—and sacrifices too—to help achieve a speedy victory for democracy and freedom.

## "THE VOICE OF LOCAL 89"

The Most Popular  
ITALIAN RADIO HOUR  
Symphony Orchestra and  
Opera Singers of International  
Fame

Luigi Antonini

First Vice President, ILGWU  
and General Secretary of Local 89  
in his weekly comments on labor and political events.

EVERY SATURDAY MORNING

From 10 to 11

on EASTERN HOOKUP

WEVD (1336 Kc.) New York  
WFLZ (980 Kc.) New Orleans  
WFEN (950 Kc.) Philadelphia

## Guardsmen Doing His Stuff



Harold Rosen, "142" member, New York State Guardsmen, poised for action. Lord speed the moment!

## "SUBSTANTIAL GOOD"

Dressmaker Gifts to Women's War Workers' Clubs  
in Britain Make Life a Little Easier, Happier  
for Hard Pressed Munitions Workers

By NORA STERN  
(Special to "Justice")

(Ed. Note: The following story was enclosed in a letter to President David Dubinsky from Bertram deN. Cruger, representative in England of the British War Relief Society of the United States. "It is heartily welcome to the girls who subscribed the really substantial good which their contributions have done," the letter stated in part.)

London.—Rallying to the nation's call in what is universally acknowledged to be one of the greatest successes of the war, women and girls from hundreds of peacetime professions are now hard at it on Britain's production front.

In factories which are dispersed all over the country, as well as in the big industrial centers, shop assistants, milliners, manicurists, dressmakers, manicurists, chorus girls, waitresses and thousands of others are earning the respect of their new employers as they turn out vital war machinery. They work at high speed under strict discipline and supervision, they are on long shifts, both day and night, they often have exhausting journeys to and from their work, and after factory hours it is essential for them to have relaxation and rest.

The life of a girl in a strange place and a strange job is very hard indeed and the strain and new responsibility of factory hours call for the proper provision of a place she can call her own.

Blething is a tremendous problem. The Scots girl may find it hard to get on with her Midlands landlady, the Londoner may not understand the country folk, while the girl from the busy landlady, having to cope with all manner of wartime housekeeping questions, has little time other than to cater to the physical needs of the girl, many of whom have never been away from home before. The human needs, such as having a friendly person to listen to their stories and give them advice on getting over the difficulties in their new surroundings, are likely to be neglected and this has in many cases been tragic.

The British War Relief Society of America, through their representative in Britain, Mr. Bertram deN. Cruger, reported this state of affairs in the United States. The society has been a most generous response from the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union in the form of a cheque for \$2,000 from the Dressmakers' Union, Local 22, as well as a cheque for a similar amount from Local 23.

These gifts will enable two recreational clubs with temporary

emergency hostel accommodation to be established in regions where imported labor is most used.

Thus the people in America who have so generously given a half-day's pay to the cause, are responsible for the provision of really homelike and restful places for British factory workers to go to when they are tired or lonely, where they can rest and take a bath, where they can read quietly or write letters and where they can dance and make friends.

The girls pay the small sum of 3d a week to belong to the clubs which they organize themselves. After the monotony of the day filling, which they thoroughly enjoy their keep-fit exercises or their ping-pong. There is a great demand for traveling (particularly about America) brain trusts, drama, dress and glomavoking, French and Russian classes, debates and discussion groups. For many of the girls the clubs are opening up an entirely new life.

The British civilian worker is thus being given the same comfort and care as the girl in the services and these recreational clubs are forming a link between the U.S.A. and Britain which will not only be one of financial assistance but also one of deep and real interest and admiration for the people who are "giving the tools" so that the job may be finished.

"Quis prostratus."

Your idle dollars mean little horsepower, unused manpower, and a deadweight on our chances of victory. Put your dollars to work for freedom. Buy war bonds.

If we neglect or bungle political agreement among the United Nations today, while the war is on, we will very likely have only painful disagreements among ourselves tomorrow when the war is over.

## The Blousemakers Were There in Force



When on Saturday, March 6 a big sector of the ILGWU turned up at the shops for Relief Fund—Sandra Donato another member of "25," shown at Rieff's Blouse shop, 29 West 38th St.



# the Cloak Joint Board

## NEWS OF THE N.Y. CLOAK UNIONS

### JOINT BOARD LEADERS, STAFF TO MEET TO DISCUSS RENEWAL ISSUES

Cloak industry problems were the chief subject of a second special meeting called by General Manager Israel Feinberg, March 11, bearing directly upon the approaching expiration of the collective agreements.

Vice President Feinberg declared that while the demands may not yet be made public, the union's plans have been fully considered. The trade associations will soon be asked to confer on the union's proposals, he added.

"The problems confronting the industry have been fully canvassed. We believe we have prepared recommendations to meet the need of the union," Feinberg said.

Present at the special meeting, which was held at the Hotel Edison, were the managers and assistant managers of the local and the heads of the Joint Board departments in addition to the full staff, the same group which met last month to hear proposals offered by Brother Feinberg.

### UNION VIGILANT IN B'KLYN AREA

"A surprise tour on Washington's Birthday of the entire borough of Brooklyn by the union's special committee revealed that violations of union work terms in the shops were at the barest minimum, according to Brooklyn Manager Anthony Costino, in a report to the Joint Board's directors on March 8.

With a view to checking shop conditions in every district of Brooklyn at a moment when the guards were supposedly down, Brother Costino put six committees into the field which darted from section to section, visiting every shop in the borough before the day was over.

"I am quite pleased with the effectiveness of our control in this borough. Less than a half dozen shops were found working in violation of union terms that day," Brother Costino added.

Manager Feinberg also expressed satisfaction with the progress in the Brooklyn territory indicated by the report, though there are yet some shops in that borough on which the union still must keep a vigilant eye.

### "All Nations" Blood Bank Day Features 36 Costumed Groups

All the world seemed united on Thursday, March 4—united in the desire to save human lives—at the Red Cross Blood Donor Center, 2 East 37th Street, New York City.

It was "All-Nations Blood Donor Day" at that busy place. And individuals or groups of 15 nations, all in the historic native costumes of the lands from which they sprang, appeared to contribute a pint of blood, each toward the 4,000,000-pint quota needed to save the lives of the wounded of American forces.

Greeks, in the skirted Evzones decorated famous in the gallant defense of their native land, rubbed elbows with Italians clad in gay, wide-collared blouses, knee-length breeches and brightly-hued stockings of the Italy that was. Poles and Russians, each in their more austere-estive copala, sat side by side waiting their turns to move to the donor cots. Hungarians, Czechoslovaks, Armenians, Dutch, Spanish, Lithuanians, Ukrainians, Poles, Romanians, each in native array did likewise. Included in the French group were 14 sailors from the Free French fleet whose ships now are undergoing repairs in American ports and three French veterans of World War I.

The "All Nations" day will serve as the introduction for a series of "national" days—"Polish Day," "Czechoslovakian Day," "Spanish Day" and the like—during which each of 36 national groups, organized by their respective foreign-language newspapers, will make blood cots at the Manhattan or Brooklyn blood donor centers.

Buy bonds till it hurts—the enemy.

### Union Veteran's Son Died in Army Camp

The executive board of Local 117, cloak operators, expressed its grief to Brother M. Deutch, a member of the operators' board, and its representative on the board of directors, for the loss of his son, Pvt. Bernard Deutch, whose death at Camp Knox, Ky., was announced by the War Department, March 3.

Manager Benj. Kaplan expressed his respect for the sterling qualities of the young man, who formerly was a clerk in the Cloak Joint Board.

The membership of Local 117 is meeting on March 18 to discuss the new collective agreements in the industry. Brother Kaplan declared that a definite program will be submitted for discussion at the meeting. Also on the agenda is a report of the local's executive board, covering a range of activities for a number of months past.

### QUARTER-MILLION DOLLARS FOR RELIEF; MORE IN SIGHT

New York Cloak Joint Board General Manager Israel Feinberg commended the members of the cloak locals—"Workers, shop chairmen, business agents and all concerned with the drive"—

### Finishers' Concert at Labor Stage, March 19

The educational committee of the Cloak Finishers' Union, Local 9, is sponsoring a concert and dance to be held at Labor Stage, Friday, March 19.

Manager Louis Hyman has invited the entire membership to attend. "It will be an evening of excellent diversion. We are providing a full program of entertainment. There will be no charge to members," Brother Hyman stated.

A meeting of the membership on March 11 took up the industrial situation and the forthcoming termination of the collective agreements.

in a statement last week "for their wonderful response to the ILGWU War Relief Fund, which has already brought in \$250,000 and will probably reach \$300,000 by the end of March.

The cloak membership worked for the fund on Saturday, February 20. Brother Feinberg observed that virtually the entire trade responded to the call "throbby indicating the whole-hearted willingness of the cloakmakers to give their time and money in assisting soldiers and their families of the war."

Treasurer Morris Ables expressed a view that the final collection from scattered shops would come in within a week or two.

### "102" Pool Tables in USO Clubs Elicit Army Men's Praise

Local 102, cloak and dress drivers and helpers, will continue its welfare activities for the men in service and for local charities. Manager Saul Metz announced March 9, after a review of the local's fund-raising drive in the Federation of Churches.

The drivers' union recently sent checks for \$3,800 to the ORT and the Los Angeles Sanatorium. Earlier this year \$5,000 was raised for the Federation of Churches.

The local is also active on the "war fronts" in many capacities. In addition to gift packages that are sent from time to time to local members in the armed forces, Local 102 recently donated seven billiard tables to USO Recreational Centers in Army camps throughout the country. Sometime next month, as planned, 100,000 cigarettes will be sent to the boys across the seas.

"These pool tables will be very much in demand since they are the only ones in our USO clubs at Little Rock, Ark.," wrote Matthew Handler, field director of the USO Club at Little Rock.

Another word of appreciation from Major William Malpas, at New Brunswick, N. J., states: "Our donation of these pool tables is a fine gesture. In my experience in USO operations in the past year, I find that pool tables are the most used equipment in any club and where the club does not have a pool table there is something lacking."

Stanley Paine of Norman, Okla., wrote Brother Metz, "We want you to know how much the gift of the pool table from your local union is going to mean to the many service men who will be using our club. In fact, we are so grateful we are erecting a plaque with your local union's name."

### "PARDON, GOOD BYE, AND AU REVOIR! . . ."

"I am not a split personality," protested Pearl Moskowitz, Local 23 operator who joined the Waves. "In your March 1 issue you printed my picture describing me as a Wave in Column three and as a Wase in Column 4."

"I will have you know," continued Miss Moskowitz, "that no Moskowitz has ever been in a wack! I am not a Wren, Waf, Spar—not a Wase—I, sir, am a Wave."

"We plead guilty," was our humble reply. "and wave goodbye to our Wave."

### STRENUOUS YEAR MIRRORED IN FINANCIAL LOG OF LOCAL 35

On-March 15, the cloak pressers, Local 35, will meet to consider the coming renewal of the trade collective agreements. The local's annual financial report will also be presented.

Manager Joseph Breslaw, in speaking of the financial report, said that it covers the entire range of activities for the previous year.

"It has been a year of many events and the interest of our membership in world affairs will be reflected in a large measure in the report."

Local 35 has established a committee to supervise the skirt pressers' fund which will be put into operation this summer. On the committee are M. Cooper, J. Janai,

J. Morgenstern, E. Weissman, O. Stein, C. Malasa and N. Gruska.

The committee, which will work in cooperation with Local 27's vacation system, is now working out a set of rules and will shortly report it to the local's executive board.

Local 35's educational committee is planning a large affair for the entire membership, tentatively scheduled for May 8.

### "Shape of Things to Come"



Joan De Furia, Local 45 member, in rehearsal for Ballet Dance at forthcoming gala concert of her local at Manhattan Center on April 3. S. L. Rue is instructor. Jean works at Anderson's, 41 East 11th Street.



By J. C. ALLEN  
Special to "Justice"

WASHINGTON—This might be a good time for labor to pause for a moment to count its blessings. The New Deal has been in power for ten years, and this is what those years have brought to labor:

1. An increase in organized strength from 3,500,000 (1932) to 12,000,000 (estimated, 1943);
2. The highest wage scale and wage level in world history;
3. The right of organization and collective bargaining, guaranteed by law, and preserved by the very strength of labor itself;
4. A large measure of social security;

5. Large-scale participation in the machinery of government in matters affecting labor (not yet sufficient, of course);

6. Recognition of the right of labor to be consulted and included in any governmental organization affecting the lives and occupations of working men and women;

7. Recognition—at least in some cases—of the principle of the closed shop as a proper responsibility to the very men organized labor as a major partner in industrial enterprise;

8. Establishment of the principle of the short work-week (40 hours, 5 days), with time-and-a-half payment for overtime;

9. Complete overhaul of the court system from the Supreme Court, on down, with a tremendous infusion of new, liberal blood into every branch of the federal judiciary; this has resulted in the elimination of the courts as a strong-hold of reaction and a constant threat to the advance of labor;

10. Appointment of men friendly to labor, and of representatives of labor, to governmental posts of over-all responsibility.

There are other blessings, too. But these are the main ones. Labor might do well, in reckoning its present problems and confusions, to look back on these achievements in mind. Labor might very well, for instance, acknowledge the responsibilities of its maturity by moving more vigorously to the defense of the political regime which helped labor grow to its present stature.

The Roosevelt Administration is in deep political trouble. There are no two ways about it. An astute political observer who returned to the national capital recently, after a stay in the West, said, "Today, President Roosevelt could be beaten in the West by Judas Iscariot." The farm bloc is solidly arrayed against the New Deal, and probably nothing can budge it. Although they are getting higher prices and greater income than ever before in recent history, the farm areas are resentful because manpower shortages and price ceilings stand between them and a truly golden harvest of profits. The Reactionary Coalition in Congress is meanwhile utilizing the disaffection of the farm bloc to pose as a "grass roots" movement.

The Reactionary Coalition has put on overall, an old shiny hat, and is hiding behind bayonet and chin-whiskers. But the shoddy patent leather shoes and the spats give the disguise away. The backbone of the Coalition is the same association of vested industrial interests which have always opposed both the farmer and the laborer in their legitimate demand for social legislation. But meanwhile the Coalition is "making hay" by using the false farm front, and making it appear that they, the Reactionaries, are the true representatives of the national farm interests in the battle against the bureaucratic New Deal.

Although the Administration is in plenty of hot water provided by enemies, it is suffering somewhat from its friends, too. There are those within the Administration who are the present war as an opportunity for making radical changes in the nation's economic



structure, without letting it appear that such radical changes are being made. Some of the proposed economic changes have merit. Others are based on wishful thinking.

But there are a good number of top-drawer thinkers in the government who are opposed to any surreptitious "progress," under the cover of war. They believe that the political repercussions of such changes would be worse than the benefits to be gained, if any.

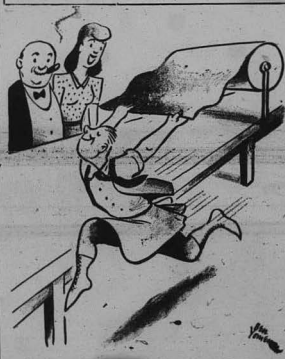
These government circles are especially opposed to the proposition of "cartel-ism," a movement which is said to have strong support from within President Roosevelt's immediate White House family, but which has active opposition from within the same circle.

"Cartel-ism" is the proposal to establish cartels or super-corporations to take over the management of major industries. The proponents of the cartel plan point out that commercial competition has no place in a war economy, anyway, and that everything would be much simpler if the entire steel industry, for example, were under finger-tip control through a single board of directors, on which the government could be simply represented.

Some liberals within the government see in this cartelization program the first step toward greater social control of industry. This (Continued on Page 15)

## NEEDLES & PINS

by Yomen



"He's using his kid sister's ballet slippers for the duration to save shoe leather."

## Raving

(With Apologies to Edgar Allan Poe)

By MIRIAM TANE

Wearily with many a heavy sigh  
Through "new" drifts piled up high,  
To my ration board I trudge  
With many a bitter grudge,  
"Coffee, sugar, gasoline,"  
Standing at the door I beg for

With tears in my eyes I stand  
They, with eyebrows bristling  
Look at me as if I'm Quixotic.  
Quoth my ration board—  
"You can have no more!"

With stars in my eyes I stand  
Waiting for a street car, freezing;  
Suddenly my street car changing,  
With many an A-card holder bang-  
ing me.

Steps for me and opens the door,  
Quoth the conductor—  
"We can hold no more!"

Home I must go in alert and snow,  
What a night, and no cab in sight;  
Wasting my leather in this weather,  
So key in the lock, and numb with

I open my door and collapse on the  
floor.  
Suddenly, there comes a knocking  
As of someone gently rocking  
My apartment door.

I with shivering trepidation  
Open to disclose a victim,  
A rent-calling expedition?  
Or a dispossession case mere?  
Into my apartment cold  
Strode a boy scout bold  
Glaring, glaring like a G man  
With many a grin upon his pan.

With my nerves completely shat-  
tered.  
Like a machine gun, words he  
splattered,  
"I want scrap, and nothing  
more!"

Scrap he wanted, scrap aplenty,  
Enough for tanks a hundred and  
twenty.

So I sat upon the floor  
Without even a knief in my hand,  
In my album defense stamps clicking,  
Faintly, not clicking  
When upon my knobbies door  
There came a terrible pounding  
With a hollow boom resounding.

Into my apartment rade  
Strode a stern-looking broad,  
Quoth my draft board from the  
door—  
"We want you, and nothing  
more!"

Words won't win the war—  
but money is louder than  
words! Buy U. S. war bonds  
and stamps!

## At the MOVIES

with ALLEN SAUNDERS

"THEY GOT ME COVERED" (at Radio City Music Hall, New York), isn't quite the belly-laugh that you enjoyed in the "Road to Morocco," co—but if you're a Bob Hope enthusiast (and who isn't?) you'll find yourself guffawing every once in a while. However, I think it needs Bing Crosby to complete that Crosby-Hope-Lamour triumvirate that sniggered so nastily through those tickling "Road" comedies. Mr. Samuel Goldwyn, who isn't quite the dialectician in real life that he pretends to be, produced this opus of a foreign correspondent who somehow always is at the beginning of a story, if he isn't at the beginning. And when he's there at the end of a story, he's just a parade. Naturally, a guy as scat-

ter-brained as that does get into situations and if those situations provide laughs, well—who am I to argue to the contrary? Mr. Hope's adventures bring in Miss Lamour who has tough competition in sex line from a damned nasty Leonore Aubert, a little something in skin and bones that will have each male wondering why he isn't in movies.

"They Got Me Covered" really has a lot of laughs. But, as I said earlier, it needs Bing Crosby. Somehow Mr. Crosby, by not acting, does a better job of miming than four-fifths of Hollywood's players. That takes in Mr. Hope, too!

"HITLER'S CHILDREN" (at the Paramount, New York), is the sort of film described in trade circles as a "bopper." That is, it's usually a low-budget picture, made on some out-of-the-way lot, has a real "name" stars, seems to be just another bit of routine movie-making and, woooo! movie audiences flock to see it. Well, that about describes "Hitler's Children," except that everyone should hurry and see it.

Edward G. Robinson, who produced this picture, is a man who feels keenly those problems that affect the world. Some years back he made a picture exposing the evils of syphilis when to even mention that word meant social ostracism. Mr. Goldwyn may not be a conscious crusader, as Mr. Golden, like most of us, would like a return on his financial investment. But he has the courage of his convictions and "Hitler's Children" proves it.

"Hitler's Children" shows how Germany's youth had its mind warped; how Nazi overlords turned innocent youngsters into sadistic brutes. Forget the silly love story that runs through the picture; forget that it's not a "suspenseful, but in parts a very good, and of ample raw material supplies has not been properly advertised. Bumping out so that only needed cash are purchased hand ideas. Maybe as it will be popularized in the case of the sale of canned

Wayne vie for her favors and the coal industry takes a beating. It tries hard to prove that Harold Alger had the right idea. Maybe so—but I doubt it!

Buy bonds till it hurts—the enemy.

Failure of government to properly educate the consumer. Too many civilians are still unaware of the threat to the war effort which in the past has been the lack of ample raw material supplies has not been properly advertised. Bumping out so that only needed cash are purchased hand ideas. Maybe as it will be popularized in the case of the sale of canned

Wayne vie for her favors and the coal industry takes a beating. It tries hard to prove that Harold Alger had the right idea. Maybe so—but I doubt it!

Buy bonds till it hurts—the enemy.

# FEARFUL

## MARKET

Best Way to Bring on Rational-  
A Scapitism Stems from  
of Realities

ON STEIN  
unprecedented proportions his  
specialty shops early last month  
businessmen are still reeling from the  
of consumer panic for which no

foods. This has brought us to the  
point at which, in Mr. Nelson's  
words, "The more we talk of cur-  
tailing civilian necessities the more  
harm there is done."

2. Rationing on a piece-meal  
basis. The rationing of a few items  
in a given class of commodities has  
been interpreted by the public as  
advance notice that others will  
soon be placed under a similar lim-  
itation. The rush to beat the band  
leads to higher prices and an in-  
crease of the spree. This has hap-  
pened with foods and now it has  
happened with clothing. The public's  
motivation is to get while the get-  
ting is good and before prices soar.  
The imposition of price ceilings has  
still not been properly coordinated  
with the aim of giving a fair share  
of goods to all.

3. Lack of inter-departmental  
coordination in issuing statements  
to the public. The most glaring ex-  
ample of this was the announce-  
ment of estimated bedrock civilian  
needs made public by the Office of  
Civilian Supply on February 21,  
right smack in the midst of the  
buying panic. The careful reader  
saw immediately that the cut in  
clothing supplies to 64 per cent of  
what was in dollar store during  
1941 was contemplated as a step to



be taken only in the event of a long  
war. But the general public is not  
a careful reader and estimates  
originally designed to allay fears  
only added fuel to the fire.

Members of the ILOUW have a  
two-fold interest at stake in this  
situation. First, as consumers, they  
will suffer the same effects of panic  
buying up the rest of the buying  
public.

More important, though, are the  
effects that panic buying has on  
them as producers. "Runs" on  
clothing such as we have just wit-  
nessed are the concern of those dis-  
turbed by controlling the distribu-  
tion of goods. There is little that  
producers can do to curb this type  
of panic.

So long as there are adequate  
supplies of fabrics and there are  
no prospects of immediate serious  
shortages, garment makers will con-  
tinue in the feverish attempt to  
keep up with the increasing demand.

As good an index as any of what  
this has meant for centers like New  
York may be found in the report of  
Joseph Platerack of the Mayor's  
Committee on Property Improve-  
ment, issued early this month.

Mr. Platerack found that since last  
fall the argument district in New  
York had its best tax payment re-  
cord in a decade. Firms formerly "in  
the red" have, on the crest of the  
buying wave, swung over to the  
black side of the ledger, many of  
them cleaning up real estate taxes  
long in arrears.

Inflation properly based on psy-  
chological panic is, however, a dan-  
gerous thing for it is neither

## On the Book Front

Review By  
Miriam  
Speicher

### THE HUMAN COMEDY

By William Saroyan  
(Harcourt, Brace and Co., \$2.15)

No, William Saroyan is not  
Father Divine's pen-name. But the  
resemblance between what one  
man writes and the other preaches  
is striking. Both hold that God is  
Love and that Father Divine, in one  
case, and William Saroyan, in the  
other, is God. Being God and being dis-  
satisfied with the world of "the law  
of gravity . . . or the law of averages,  
or the law of supply and demand,



or any other law . . ." each has  
tried to remake the world in his  
own image, one using religious de-  
votion, the other literary imagination.

Mr. Saroyan, now of the United  
States Army, has, in the past few  
years, been telling the world in a  
half-dozen plays and several score  
short stories that Mr. Saroyan is  
in heaven and all's well with his  
world. Now, in his first novel, a  
blue-plate special that makes his  
earlier works look like mere appet-  
izers, he has served up a dish that  
has a little of something to  
satisfy almost every taste.

The trouble with it is that it needs  
seasoning. His knowledge of child  
behavior is solid stuff. His philo-  
sophical comments on the world and  
people, if faded out in smaller  
portions could easily be mistaken  
for profundities. But when poured  
out so freely it makes even the milk  
of human kindness take on the pink  
and aroma of staid life.

Mr. Saroyan's fairy tale lacks what  
all good fairy tales should have—a  
witch. He has here told the story  
of an American family in wartime—  
the Macaulays of Ithaca. Al-  
yet in their world evil is neither  
seen, heard nor spoken. Mr. Mac-  
aulay says: "The evil that we know  
they are evil and are therefore in-  
nocent. The evil man must be for-  
given every day. He must be  
loved."

Mr. Grogan, the telegraph opera-  
tor, tells Homer Macaulay who has  
gone to work as a messenger boy

healthy nor permanent. Should con-  
trols become necessary it will then  
come to many who have become ac-  
customed to "rush" production, that  
the props are being pulled out from  
under the industry when in reality  
the reaction will be only a shift  
back to normal production geared  
to needs and not fear. Deflated  
profits, earnings (and the longer  
hours upon which they rest) will  
make a noise like the stock market  
crash. But control of production  
and distribution, of buying and sell-  
ing, is in the cards and industry  
factors would do well to prepare  
themselves, if only psychologically,  
for such an eventuality, now.

## U.S. Airman Lost

By MAX PRESS

Flame was your shroud, your ely-  
thrunder—  
Dead! And you in the good,  
clean skies;  
What remains is that immortal  
courage  
Which breaks and bleeds but  
never dies.

Faith shall win through and evil  
shall be in that he believes, he  
is my friend, not my enemy, for he  
is no different from myself. And  
so on.

In some unknown and far Valhalla—  
O unreturning heart of Youth!

that, "Every man in the world,  
right or wrong, is trying." The thief  
and the murderer are trying." In  
a posthumously received letter,  
Homer's brother Marcus, killed in  
action, writes, "I do not recognize  
any enemy which is human, for no  
human being can be my enemy.  
Whoever he is . . . however mistaken  
he may be in what he believes, he  
is my friend, not my enemy, for he  
is no different from myself." And  
so on.

The author rises through this  
kind of air with the greatest ease.  
He has achieved this remark-  
able reversal of values by turning  
time backwards and restoring to his  
people the uncorrupted innocence of  
childhood. In those episodes in  
which innocent childhood has not  
been corrupted by Saroyanisms there  
are some delightful passages a few  
of which approach greatness. Little  
Odysseus at the public library, his  
adventure in a bear trap, the gang  
out to steal apricots off the tree in  
Mr. Henderson's backyard, Little  
Johnnie Ann rejecting the rich wares  
of his father's fruit store and re-  
peating the customer's request for  
the one item not on the shelves—  
"cookies, raisins, in." Homer's an-  
cient history class and two-twenty  
low hurdle race are good because  
the author has left out the mysti-  
cal claptrap just long enough to  
capture a few wonderful actions in  
the lives of his youngsters.

But his adults trying to be chil-  
dren are a sorry lot. They move  
about in "a kind of happy day-  
dream all the time." Each, as a  
child, "looks for a child in every-  
one else he meets," happily heart-  
broken over the loneliness of all  
things, "oblivious of slums and pol-  
itics." "Our family doesn't bother  
much about things like that, any-  
way. We like music."

Thanks to the book clubs and the  
movies more than half a million  
copies of "The Human Comedy" will  
be sold. If you don't think so, you  
can reserve your cell at the  
state asylum now. "There's enough  
Vichy water in it to create the il-  
lusion of a full meal and enough  
gas to make war-weary business  
men, harassed government officials  
and tired chubmen feel that they  
are being elevated. Ah, Life! Ah,  
Lovely Lonely! Ah, Nuts!

### "In Return for Past Favors . . ."



By SUSAN WHITE

Controlling prices is no easy job. We recognize that. But we  
are completely unable to agree with a recent suggestion from an  
important Washington quarter that not to control prices at all is  
the best way to keep them down. Perhaps, we would not be too  
disturbed if this had not been  
planted at in high official quarters,  
if it had come out of the mouth of,  
from the pen, of some Dollar-a-  
Year Man with an axe to grind, or  
from a minor official trying to make  
the news. But this suggestion has



come from one of the few men  
who really does have a decisive voice  
in the question of what is to be  
done about the rising cost of living.  
That makes it an official fever, if  
nothing more, and, since it is a  
fever, we intend to express our  
feelings about it.

The "off-with-the-Price-Ceiling"  
cry is nothing new. It arises from  
every trade association, from every  
retail, wholesale, and credit bureau.  
Everybody who has a penny to gain  
by seeing ceilings lifted wants to  
see his own lifted first. For others,  
of course, ceilings should stay on.  
But collectively, the off-with-the-  
ceiling cry is the true voice of  
American retail and wholesale busi-  
ness walling for unrestricted profits.  
It is the voice of the men who are  
beating the law right now, violat-  
ing price restrictions almost with  
contempt, and who ask that the  
penalty be removed.

Perhaps, we have too deep a sus-  
picion of men in office who prate  
about honor and neglect to frame  
wise laws with strong measures to  
enforce them. Perhaps, we have too  
great a belief in the efficacy of pun-  
ishment, administered almost auto-  
matically, of those who set out de-  
liberately to rob a nation so that  
profits might grow. Perhaps, it is  
simply that we have a lot more  
sense than some folk in Washing-  
ton. Whatever the reason, we be-  
lieve (and we want others to be-  
lieve and to shoot to the world  
that they believe) that removing  
price ceilings would leave the peo-  
ple at the mercy of a pack of com-  
mercial wolves.

It only remains that the only rea-  
son—why price ceilings are being  
violated is because everyone who

thinks that he can get away with  
it is being allowed to do just that.  
We, the foolish ones, are hesi-  
tant not by refusing to pay exhor-  
bitant prices. But it is an old argu-  
ment of the law that fools must be  
protected against themselves. We have  
been the fools. Take away the price  
ceilings and there will be no way  
to protect us.

Honor is not quite the sort of  
thing to expect from men who, in  
the midst of a war, deliberately  
withhold the nation's butter supply  
from the nation's consumers and  
blatantly profess that there will be no  
more butter unless the profit on it is  
jacked up. There are lots of names  
for such conduct. Honor does not  
enter any part of them—except in-  
jury. And the bourgeoisie of the  
land have yet to become aware of it.  
They are starting to view with  
sympathy the "right" of the man  
who returns butter to charge. They  
stand between them and their butter sup-  
ply. The sacredness of profits seems  
to overawe them.

Likewise, it is starting to overawe  
certain of our Washington gentle-  
men. Otherwise, there would, by  
now, have been some drastic action  
against the jobbers who stand  
between them and their butter supply.  
Instead, the fact that the jobbers  
hold the nation's housewares to ran-  
som is the doubtful basis on which  
they presume to read signs of honor  
in the tradesmen of America. Black  
masks, illegally slaughtered cat-  
tle, black-jacking of foods, the drift  
of the over-the-counter trade to gang-  
ster activities are the things which  
Washington has staring it in its  
face when its mouths this talk about  
honor.

Even the honorable are becoming  
corrupted. We wrote, some months  
ago, about our own greengrocer  
who refused to pay or charge more  
than the legal maximum. The quality  
of his goods has been going  
down. He has been getting the leav-  
ing of his bedsprings, wilted, worn-  
out, rotten, half of which is fit  
only for refuse. Has he remained  
perfectly law abiding? Seeing his  
customers drift away from him to  
the competitor higher up on the  
block who always has broccoli, or  
scallions, or whatever is scarce and  
highly priced, he has been forced  
to raise his standards, wilted, worn-  
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## ELECTIONS STIR UNION INTEREST IN MANY CITIES

<sup>1</sup>In Local 374, Flora Mizner was

A group of Local 16, St. Louis cutters, meet to receive Red Cross man, is flanked on both sides by Red Cross n

The quickest, surest way  
YOU can help win this war...  
buy war bonds and stamps  
every week.

# THE NEW EXPANSION

By Effects of War Effort in Some Smaller Pennsylvania Cities — Women Are a Stable, Reliable Labor Force

By ELIAS REINBERG, V.P. and Director, Cotton Garment Department

The numerous reports that daily come into my office from all districts of the Cotton Garment Department cover the wide range of activities of our locals. The many war-aid campaigns, fund raising, civilian defense, bond selling, Red Cross work, the day's wages for war relief, all are a measure of what ILOUW members are doing here at home to help in the war effort.

But the other kind of reports, those telling of industrial changes in the shops, afford a partial picture of what the war effort is doing to our industry. Elsewhere on this page there are reports of how needle trades production is expanding in two of our Pennsylvania districts.

In the next few weeks almost a dozen new shops, employing many thousands will be opened around Hazleton and Scranton. We expect little difficulty in organizing these plants because on the whole they are a new reason for coming to Pennsylvania. In the days before the war many manufacturers came to this state in search of cheaper labor. Against this the union fought a long but winning battle.

Today, when conditions have become secondary. Many of these plants will be operated by firms whose factories in other areas have been unable to produce in quantities sufficient to meet demands. In many cases this has happened either because workers have been lost to war industries or because existing labor forces have been converted to war work in plants which previously produced garments.

In Pennsylvania, the Federal Reserve income index shows that earnings have not been going up as spectacularly as in some other sections of the country. Pennsylvania, except in the East, is short of war work. Men in the mining areas are leaving for other parts of the state or country in search of the higher pay and overtime rates that get around the healthy labor relations that already exist in these markets they will find the ILOUW staffs and members ready to cooperate.

## SCRANTON LINES UP AGAINST WOODWARD ANTI-LABOR MEASURE

The campaign to defeat the anti-labor Woodward Bill now before the Pennsylvania State Legislature continues to be pushed by all branches of organized labor in the state. ILOUW locals throughout the area have written to representatives and senators from their localities informing them that the bill is a threat to peaceful labor relations.

An example of what is being done may be seen in the petition campaign started last week by the Scranton District Council, Manager 1. Zimmerman. In receipt of a letter from Representative Robert J. Cordier which states "that if it (the Woodward Bill) clears the Senate and arrives on the floor of the House for consideration, I shall oppose it."

Another letter from State Senator J. Coleman promises, "If there is only one May voice—Stentorian in tone—it will be Coleman."

**Boston I. J. Fox Signs**

The agreement covering the arbitration workers of I. J. Fox Co., Boston, Mass., has been renewed. May Levin of the Boston office of the Cotton Garment Department reports.

## In Uniform



Alma Mahala, first member of Local 185, Shamokin, Pa., to join the Weaver, the girl in uniform February 19.

## New Organizer in Hazleton

Zuel Burke has been added to the staff of organizers of the Cotton Garment Department. Vice President Elias Reinberg announced last week.

Brother Burke will work district Manager Harry Schindler in the Hazleton area.

## ALPS KNT WORKERS OF BOSTON WIN AWARD FROM ARBITER MACK

Workers of the Alps Manufacturing Company, Boston, Mass., have been awarded a wage increase of 20 per cent by Arbitrator Major Mack, according to Jack Halpern, East-West Massachusetts district manager.

The award, writes Halpern, "is based on a detailed analysis of earnings made by Major Mack in which it was found that the incomes of these workers were considerably below those prevailing in other shops of this industry in this area."

The 110 employees of Alps were organized six months ago and joined Local 228. Producing knitted sportswear, all of them are affected by the increase which has been sent to the War Labor Board for approval. Featured in the award is a provision making the WLB decision retroactive to the time when the union agreement was made with the firm.

Also reported by Halpern is the signing of a union contract with the Haverhill Sportswear Co., whose 120 workers were recently organized. The firm has joined the Rainier Manufacturers' Association.

The agreement calls for a change to piece work to be made in the next four weeks. During the period of the adjustment to the new basis present week work rates are to be guaranteed as a minimum.

## East - West Mass. Locals Prepare for Relief Day

East-West Massachusetts Locals have been holding meetings in the past two weeks for the purpose of taking action on the ILOUW War Relief Fund, reports Vice President Elias Reinberg, director of the Cotton Garment Department.

In all instances plans are being made so that the contribution of a day's work will be made in a week of high-level production. Among the first to act were Local 242, Brockton, Mass., and Local 350, Embroiderers, Pleaters, Sitters, Union and Novelty Workers' Division, Boston, Mass.

# IN EASTERN COTTON GARMENT AREA

## "Cotton" Chief



After involuntary absence due to illness, Vice President Reinberg returns to post.

## WLB OKAYS OSWEGO 5% WAGE INCREASE

Up-State New York Supervisor Max Wexler has reported WLB approval of the 5 per cent increase negotiated for the workers of the Leask Manufacturing Co., Oswego, according to Vice President Elias Reinberg.

The increase for these knits goods workers, members of Local 396, was gained last December when the agreement with Leask was renewed.

## NEW PLANTS OPEN, NEW EMPLOYEES PA. NEED AREAS

## Growth in Scranton in Hazleton District

"The influx of new firms into the Scranton area," writes District Manager I. Zimmerman, "has presented our union with a set of problems which, we are confident, will be speedily and satisfactorily solved. Brother Dave Gindoff, our Pennsylvania State Supervisor, Department Director Elias Reinberg, and our Scranton staff are at present engaged in negotiations involving eight new plants."

Conferences with representatives of three of the firms have reached the stage where it may be safely stated that they will operate as union shops when regular production is started. At that time it is expected approximately 2,000 will be employed in these three shops alone.

The Edward Shuwall Flocks Co. of New York has already begun operations with about 400 in the Bliss Co. Building in Dickson City near Scranton. The concern now operates similar plants at Fall River, Mass., and Pottstown, Pa.

M. M. Bernstein and Ben Cop of Easton, Pa., has opened an underwear plant in which it expects to employ about 300.

The Barbison Co. (Barber and Clarkfield), have taken over the huge Bliss Mill in Jessup where approximately 1,000 will be employed when peak production is reached.

The reorganization of established plants and the opening of new ones in the Hazleton District of the Cotton Garment Department, which will give employment to approximately 400 new workers are expected to be completed in the very near future according to Vice President Elias Reinberg.

The Petronio Dress Co. will operate the shop formerly known as the Hazel Dress Co. The management of the plant will now be in the hands of Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Petronio. Both have had a number of years experience in dress factory management. The plant, which at peak production employs 250, will produce exclusively for the McKetterick-Williams Co. Current orders indicate operation at full capacity for an indefinite period.

Installation of machinery in the new plant of the Hazleton Sportswear Co. is being completed. Under the management of Simon Joseph the firm will shortly employ 125. Production of women's and children's sportswear will be exclusively for the "Robert L. Schwartz Co. of New York, manufacturers of 'Bally Tops'."

The agreement now being negotiated will be similar to the one with the McAdoo Sportswear Co. of McAdoo, Pa., also an affiliate of the Schwartz firm.

Negotiations are also being conducted with the Tamaqua Dress Company by Harry Schindler, district manager of the Hazleton area.

## Women's League Seeks Equal Pay State Law

The Women's Trade Union League submitted on March 8 to the Legislature in Albany the first bill ever to be submitted in New York State proving equal pay for equal work.

In a public statement in support of its bill, the League says:

"The enactment of the proposed legislation is essential for maximum war production and the successful waging of the war. Not only does common justice demand that women doing the same work as men be paid the same wages. In addition, the assurance so necessary to the morale of the men in the armed forces that the jobs they had to give up are not being filled permanently by women, equally requires it. Experience demonstrates that employers who cannot (by law) pay lesser wages to women than to men for the same job will rehire men as soon as manpower is available."

The proposed bill has the endorsement of the New York State Federation of Labor.

## Hazleton Readies for Day's Pay for Relief

The executive board of Local 228, Hazleton, Pa., unanimously approved the recommendation of the OEB for a day's work for the ILOUW War Relief Fund, reports Harry Schindler, district manager.

Shop-to-shop plans are now being made to collect the contributions during weeks of full production, he adds.

Buy bonds till it hurts—the enemy.

## A Light Moment in Boston



Ele Lession, ILOUW educational director in Hub City, leads off in group singing at a dance arranged by union for service men.

## "AUSSIES" COME TO SERVICE MEN HUB CITY DANCE

One hundred and fifty girls, members of the Boston District of the Cotton Garment and Miscellaneous Trades Department, were official hostesses at the opening of the Boston Service Club dances held at union headquarters, 888 Washington Street, Boston, on February 18, reports Eva Lasson, educational director.

Men of all the armed forces, including the "Aussies," were well represented and from all appearances had a grand time. The evening swung into action with the "Red WPA Orchestra and from then on the junior and senior hostesses did a smooth job of keeping everyone "dancing" and "well-supplied with food."

New York was represented by two air corps cadets who said they came up because their mother and sister respectively were members of Local 80.

One Scranton Marine, while glancing through some of our out-of-town literature (ILOUW News—Scranton District Council) exclaimed, "Why, this union member, Madeline Burchison, lives across the street from me—and I know WPA Clna, too." We told him that the ILOUW spreads almost as widely as the Marines, whereupon he reported, "But, you're not 'making dresses in the Pacific'."

Evidently the boys had a "whopper" of a time because they all asked for the date of the next scheduled dance. The girls didn't do so badly either because they are insisting that the dances take place weekly instead of monthly.

## "Bar" Maids—For Health



Marlyn Oberman, Local 62 (left) and Harriet Tobias, Local 38, showing how it is done at Church of All Nations gym and swimming classes every Tuesday and Thursday evenings.

## ILGWU WOMEN URGED TO JOIN FIT-FOR-WAR-EFFORT SPORTS

A prominent former world heavyweight boxing champion was once asked how it feels to be in the ring with sparring partners and whether or not the blows which were landed by his sparmates hurt. Surprisingly enough, the then champion could not answer the question directly, but said that he kept himself in such good physical condition at all times that he was able to throw off any effects of a strong blow quickly and therefore did not notice any one particular heavy punch.

This problem of "condition" has become more important today for the average civilian than for the athlete. The increasing demands placed upon each and every person in the nation has tended to emphasize the value of being in good physical condition. It is no longer an individual problem for one to exercise regularly so that he or she can show how physically fit one is and pride oneself on the fact one has taken the time to do such things. The problem of keeping fit is compulsory for everyone in order that we may participate more effectively in the war effort. This applies more and more to the women of America.

Most women will be looking to some form of recreation and exercise to prepare themselves adequately for the increased physical demands placed upon them; and we have just the place and program to enable women to get into good physical condition.

The ILGWU physical fitness program is designed to give all participants recreation as well as body building activity. The gym and pool sessions afford enrollees the more rigorous activity and enable individuals to get into good physical condition. A good suggestion for new participants is first to go to gym and pool and later enroll in the boxing session. As they progress, they can attend both sessions each week and keep themselves not only physically fit but mentally alert as well.

For the convenience of all concerned, gym and pool is held twice weekly, Tuesday and Thursday evenings at the Church of All Nations and boxing is held every Wednesday evening at the spacious Bowlermore Alleys.

We urge all women who have not as yet signed up for one or both of the courses to do so immediately so that they may be well prepared to do anything the government asks them to do. One sure way for women to do their part for the war effort is to see that they get the small amounts of civilian goods out of the war quickly and allow the

## THE COMING TO EM

For the first time since they undertook to entertain the service men, members of the Women's Service Brigade learned what it means to be on the receiving end of a good time when, on March 4, they held open house at the Labor Stage Canteen for themselves.

Peggy Levine, director, and Helen Levenson, secretary of the Brigade, arranged, the buffet dinner which left the girls free of any duties. Old fashioned games and—jolly singing marked an evening which included extra special entertainment arranged for these hard-working girls by Louis Schaffer, ILGWU Cultural Director.

Nanette Sanders of the stage and opera, who is being watched by Hollywood's talent scouts, sang as did Lillian Levy, Brigade member who made her behind-the-scenes debut on this evening. Perdue enthusiasts, Belle Ditsch offered a varied program of international numbers.

High point of the evening was the unveiling, with appropriate ceremonies, of the new urn at the refreshment bar. From now on and as long as the coffee-lads, home pointers are out and coffee-lads will be streamlined "just like in Childs."

## CASABLANCA "G O B" RECALLS PLEASANT NIGHTS AT CANTEN

Service men at the Saturday night dances at Labor Stage Canteen are still getting the best in entertainment and refreshments according to their own testimony, so it really is coming in from places far distant from the 39th Street gathering spot.

Typical is the post-card received at Women's Service Brigade headquarters this week from Frank E. Klaybor of the United States Navy, Postmarked Casablanca, February 4. Klaybor's message is short but to the point. He recalls a pleasant night at the Canteen and hopes "to be with you soon again."

Floor shows arranged by Louis Schaffer, ILGWU Cultural Director, featured in the past two weeks Dan Eckley, Lillian Habouche of Local 91; comedy entertainment by Joey Pate and Company; songs by Lillian Levy, Brigade member; romantic ballads by Emilie Renan and volunteer entertainment by the service men themselves. The community sings led by Gertrude Utstein regularly bring the "show" to a close on a friendly note.

Brigade captains and committees, under the guidance of their director, Peggy Levine, have received many compliments from the men in uniform. Routine Canteen services on February 27 and March 6 were in the charge of M. Springer (Local 21), Esty Friedman (Local 62), Gertrude Turkovitz (Local 27), Olga Arrigo (Local 89), Mabel Duran (Local 72), Estelle Kerwin (Local 151), Naomi Lewis (Local 32), Billy Walden (Local 90), Len Baxendale (Local 60) and Carmen Rosa (Local 91).

Volunteer beer-barrel "pumpers" for both evenings were Tony Greir and Blair Radcliffe.

Special feature on March 6 was square dancing led by members of the Play Co-op Dance Group, excellent folk dancers.

## Seattle Local Raises \$50 for Red Cross Fund

Sponsored by Mary Tunik, Rose Sigel and Pennie Stone, members of Local 28, ILGWU, Seattle, Wash., a dinner given on February 26, netted \$50 for the Red Cross, Mabel Sundberg, local secretary writes. Thirty members of the local attended. Songs by Aaron Dolgoff and dancing rounded out the evening.

BUT War Bonds—Stamps

## THE WEST COAST PACIFIC COAST FEDERATION "WIN-THE-WAR" SESSION

"Our Number One job is winning the war." That was the keynote of a conference of the ILGWU Pacific Coast Federation executive board in Los Angeles February 26.

## Coast Notes

Approximately \$1,000 was raised from the sale of women's coats and suits made up for the annual Town Fair bazaar by members of the Los Angeles Cloak Joint Board, announced Louis Pine, manager. An additional sum of approximately \$1,000 in cash was also contributed by Los Angeles cloakmakers.

Proceeds from the affair go to the Los Angeles Tuberculosis Sanatorium at Duarte, Cal.

Los Angeles cloakmakers have responded 100 per cent to the OGB's call for contributions to the ILGWU War Relief Fund, announced Louis Pine, manager. Los Angeles Cloak Joint Board. The latest check on returns from the shops showed that approximately \$17,000 had been raised, with reports still missing from 19 shops. Complete reports are expected to boost the total by several thousand dollars.

Anticipation of the Los Angeles ILGWU Dressmakers' Victory Ball received a fever pitch this week as final arrangements were being completed for the affair. The dance will take place March 19 at the Rendezvous Room of the world-famous Los Angeles Biltmore Hotel.

In a recent resolution the Los Angeles Dressmakers' Local 98 and the Dress Joint Board endorsed the general activities of the OPA but called for certain changes in policy. The groups endorsed the principle of rationing, but protested against advance announcements of commodities to be rationed, charging this practice encourages hoarding.

The groups also asked that labor be given representation on all local price and rationing boards.

## Training for Leadership

Spotlight of the educational program of Los Angeles Sportswear Local 266 has turned on training of members for union leadership. A class has been organized to train price committees and chairladies in the duties associated with their office.

In addition to classroom work the chairladies and committees are given practical experience in union leadership. The executive board of the local throws open every weekly meeting to the classes, and the students are permitted to watch the local leadership in action.

## Soldiers, Marines—And Now Sailors!...

First the soldiers, then the marines, and now the sailors! That is the order in which members of Los Angeles Local 266 have entertained service men since the recent organization of their Hostess Brigade.

Members of the Army Medical Corps were the first guests of the union group at a party and dance at the ILGWU clubrooms. Members of the Marine Corps were the next to be honored, and at the latest party March 5, members of the U. S. Navy were entertained.

Luella Calista, commandant of the Hostess Brigade, reported that ranks of the corps are swelling rapidly with many new recruits signing up after each party.

The entire afternoon session of the conference was devoted to a discussion of wage stabilization, mass power stabilization, extension of the work week and other wartime regulations affecting labor.

The group voted unanimously to cooperate with the government in establishment of a 48-hour week in the garment industry, "wherever the administration feels such a move is necessary." The present basic work week in many coast garment manufacturing centers is 35 hours.

In order to facilitate establishment of the longer week, should it be necessary, the conference voted to refrain from asking time and one half pay after 35 hours for piece workers in markets where this group now receives premium pay only after 40 hours. Previously the union had planned a drive for extension of the time and one half pay to cover all work after 35 hours.

In markets where workers are now receiving time and one half after 35 hours the union will expect extra work to add the new effort, but we do not intend to permit employers to get rich on the 48-hour week," said Vice President Louis Levy, Pacific Coast director.

The group also endorsed a study of manpower stabilization plans and their application to the garment industry.

In a move to insure uniformity of work and wage conditions in coast markets, the board voted to request the Los Angeles Cloak Joint Board and the Pacific Coast Joint Board to exchange reports on demands before they are presented to employers. The group also asked establishment of uniform explanation of demands of agreements in coast markets.

William Wolf, Pacific Coast Educational Director, reported on educational activities.

The morning session was devoted to reports from the markets represented, including Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland and Seattle. Those present included Vice President Levy, Louis Pine, chairman, Los Angeles; Henry Zacharin, secretary, San Francisco; executive board members Margaret Corwin, Local 266, Los Angeles; Harry Cowan, Local 84, Los Angeles; Paul Greenberg, San Francisco Joint Board; Cliff Mayer, Portland and Seattle, and those present in Seattle—Bjergsten, executive secretary, Local 266; Lupe Medina and Myrtle Ruman, Local 266 business agents; Sam Wilens, Local 63 business agent; William Wolf, Pacific Coast Educational Director, and Cliff Gill, publicity director, Pacific Coast Office.

## "384" Will Give Day's Pay to Relief Fund

By a unanimous vote Local 384, ILGWU, has gone on record to give one day's pay towards the union's national War Relief Fund.

Local 384 is the headquarters of the drive, according to its president, Ruth Lavallier. Local 384 was the first of ILGWU locals in California to sponsor and put into operation a "384" per cent payroll deduction plan for the purchase of war bonds, and is the proud possessor of a Minute Man "T" flag signifying to this accomplishment. Approximately \$20,000 worth of bonds has been purchased by its members since January, 1942.

Buy bonds till it hurts—the enemy.

## A Concert of American Music

by  
The ILGWU Chorus  
Paul Boepple, conductor

An Address  
by  
Julius Hochman  
Chairman of the Educational Committee, ILGWU

at  
THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART  
Fifth Ave. and 83rd St.  
SATURDAY, MARCH 26, 1943  
2:30 P.M.

GUEST ARTISTS  
Frances Magnus, violinist  
Kenneth Spencer, harp  
Emile Renan, baritone

To be followed by a guided tour of the American Wing

more important war industries the right of way. Delay in civilian production indirectly hampers war production and the ILGWU is proud to be able to offer its members facilities to keep fit that will assist in aiding the nation to a speedy victory.

Tank Expert

Arnold Fink, Minneapolis cutter, Local 244, who has learned a lot about tanks and automatic weapons in the army.

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# OUR BOYS IN THE SERVICES

## \* LETTERS \*

Dear Friends:

... This army is a wonderful school of life. I am proud to see how fellows like myself, newcomers to this country, are undergoing a



speedy process of Americanization by being thrown together with thousands of fine American boys. We are drawn out of our Italian or Jewish or Spanish or other communities to become true members of the greatest community of all... It's a great quest. First came your gift and then a promotion to Sergeant.

Harry Krizhaber (Local 91)

Dear Mr. Abatte:

... The people of our organization are doing a good job of buying bonds for without their help our fighting would have to be prolonged. The money you sent me it will be used for a very good cause; it will go into next month's war bonds for our soldiers also buy bonds. They not only help our country but they are also a good investment...

L. Pittman  
(Local 127)

Dear Mr. Goldstein:

It is Newman saying hello by V Mail to my fellow men, the chairman and secretary of the Chicago Joint Board from somewhere in England. I received your gift yesterday and



as I opened it I thought about the many hours I spent with my union brothers. The days and months are sure rolling by fast here and it won't be long before we'll be having good times together again.

Daniel Newman  
(Chicago)

### You All...

Dear Friends:

... Thanks for asking if there is anything you all can do for me. But when a fellow is stationed at Meigs Field, to which I have just been transferred, and when he is studying in the Pre-Flight School, where I am now in training, there is no need for him to call upon you all for help. The only thing he really wants is to work hard and not to be forgotten by his friends back home. So please write once in a while as I am always happy to hear from you all.

Gus Della (Local 98)

... It's a long way from home but I hope to get a furlough soon and visit the union. But if not, just save some pleasing for me till this is all over...

Irvig Klein (Local 66)

### Plane Love

Dear Brother Feldman:

I am a member of an Air Depot Group in the Army Air Forces and our main job is to salvage and upgrade planes. There are of several different types and it's a lot of fun seeing something fly after you've put a lot of work into it. You begin to feel personally responsible for the welfare of the plane as if it were something alive that has to be groomed and pampered and its life washed by you...

I can say I've had good breaks in the service and am now a sergeant. There isn't much difference between working in the army and working in civilian life. In both cases you've got to



keep on the ball, show that you can produce, only in the army you do it for your country.

Louis Kraut  
(Local 132)

### Dear Friend:

I have been thinking of you all very often ever since the gh I haven't written in all of you, which would be impossible. From time to time I am from you and it seems you all are doing a job there in the campaign at the Standard. Just keep up the spirit and good work and one of these days it is sure yours, all of you will derive the benefits you deserve.

I am still one of you and hoping to be back to join you all again soon as I always enjoyed being with you and working together with you.

Ray L. Spivey  
(Local 376)

### Right on the Button With "132"



Members of Local 132 tell fellow trade unionists and Manager Martin Feldman they are preparing some novel plastic surgery for the Axis.

... I see Local 132 is well represented in the armed forces. It was swell of the members to contribute an ambulance to the Red Cross. I am proud to know that our local, so much smaller than some of its big brothers in the ILGWU family, is doing its share.

Nicholas Scotto

... I am in the infantry, and they say it is a tough branch. But when you start to think why it is being done you don't mind it at all. I hope the union will continue to prosper for all time.

Hyman Streitzer

... My work is in the Photo Laboratory and it is very interesting. But showed the boys the gift and they all had some very nice words for the union...

Benny Stambler

Since I graduated in November my work has been to assist the Dental Officers. ... Thanks for the encouragement. It is good to know we have friends on the home front plugging for us. The boys in the Army appreciate the sacrifices you are making.

Kenneth Bolt

... I know you all would like to

### What'dya Read?

(By Local 66rs)

... I am very grateful to you for sending me the union papers. It means a lot to know what the folks back home are doing and es-



pecially from workers with whom you've been associated for more than 15 years. ... SAM ROSENBERG.

... Army life is swell, as much as I've seen of it. It is something new. I think it's better than being cooped up in a button shop. ... Please answer soon as I am very homesick for news. ... ALFRED FELDEN.

... I have not received my union magazine, "Justice." I am anxious to know how things are and I would like very much to read the "Justice" to know what is going on in my union. That I have been with for so many years. Please send it to me. ... IRVING TULCHIN.

... The union paper reached me here in North Africa and I feel greatly honored to read that my name is on the Local 66 Service Flag and Roll of Honor. You inspire me with pride and joy for what my fellow members are doing at home for the USO and war bonds. We are doing our part and with your help a glorious victory will be ours. ... JACK COHN.

# AFI-CIO COMMITTEE ASSASSINATIONS ENRICH-ALTYER ELECTIONS

## Protest Meeting Set for March 30

Declaring that "appreciation of the valiant struggle of the Russian armed forces to drive the Hitler hordes from the Russian homeland will not lead us to condone acts of physical and moral assassination committed by the Communist dictators of Russia

against ideological opponents," a committee of 250 leading trade union leaders of New York, headed by David Dubinsky, ILGWU president, announced a march that is a public meeting to protest the execution by the Soviet authorities last December of Henryk Ehrlich and Victor Altyer. Internationally known Polish labor and Socialist leaders will be held at Mecca Temple on the evening of March 30.

Leaders of the largest AFL and CIO unions joined the committee of 250. The meeting, at which the committee was organized, was held at the general offices of the ILGWU, 1 West 14th Street. Persons prominent in the political, cultural and educational life of the country will address the Mecca Temple meeting.

The full statement of the committee follows:

"The news of the execution of Henryk Ehrlich and Victor Altyer by order of Soviet authorities in December, 1942, has stunned their numerous friends and associates in the American and world-wide labor movement and in the widest liberal and democratic circles in this country.

"We regard the declaration by the Soviet Government, through its Washington Embassy, that the executed Polish labor leaders and Socialist were traitors and associates in the American and world-wide labor movement and in the widest liberal and democratic circles in this country.

"Ehrlich and Altyer paid several visits to America in recent years to appeal to the organized workers of this country for help in the struggle against Hitler and Fascism in Europe. Tens of thousands of American citizens had had the opportunity of meeting these two outstanding leaders of the Polish workers and they gained the friendship and admiration of many leaders of American labor.

"The lives of Henryk Ehrlich and Victor Altyer are shining examples of sterling and fervent devotion to the cause of their people. We dismiss categorically the absurd and wild charge that they were working for a separate peace with the Nazis. The effort to besmirch the character of these martyrs, to cast black shadows on their fealty to the ideals of progress and humanity, is shameful and vile.

"The execution of Ehrlich and Altyer, we declare, was a political assassination, an act of vengeance by the Communist Party and by the leaders of the Third Internationale against men who as life-long Socialists and trade union leaders in this country stoutly opposed all forms of dictatorship including Communism.

"We yield to no one in our admiration of the magnanimity with which the Russian people and Russia's Red Army are playing in the common struggle of the United Nations against Nazi aggression and barbarism. ... We are proud of other Americans who hail their achievements and we pledge to them our unbroken support.

"Our appreciation of the valiant struggle of the Russian armed forces to drive the Hitler hordes from the Russian homeland will not lead us to condone acts of physical and moral assassination committed by the Communist dictators of Russia against ideological opponents, acts of both physical and moral assassination. We are engaged in the unclean work of defaming these two peerless leaders of Polish labor after their execution by Soviet authorities that they come forth with facts to prove their charges or forever be damned by every fair-minded and liberty-loving American as guilty of wanton murder."

... I imagine you folks are short-handed for men at the factory. Here, in England, the women work as well as the men.

... I hope you will never be rationed as much as the people over here. Everything you buy is with a "Ration card, please." I can see the English ways are somewhat different from American ways. Sometimes they seem to be doing things backwards. Where we are right, they are left. They drive on the left-hand side of the road but they get where they're going just the same.

Donald Schrimp  
(Local 365)

... I have survived a I.Q. tests for which the Navy has rewarded me a stack of books that are so big that one can hardly lift them all at a time. If knowledge is power, I'm going to be one powerful guy by the time I'm through with these volumes. They range from First-Aid through Mathematics, Seamanship, Navigation, Cargo Handling and Signalling with Morse Code and Semaphore Flags. We are all working hard and our day starts at 6 A.M. and ends at 10 P.M. By the



time our training and study are finished we'll know how to throw the book (all 12 volumes) at the enemy.

Eric R. Ross  
(Business Agent, EOT Dept.)

Dear Mr. Turvin:

I want to thank you for the cigarettes which I received from you. The men here also want to thank you. I couldn't smoke them, so I handed out most of them. They are appreciated them. You see, we get paid rather infrequently when you first enter the army. There is lots of money when you pay runs regularly so the cigarettes were like gifts from Santa Claus.

I suppose you are wondering at the rate the cost of this letter. If you can't be helped. You sent the



package to Miami Beach and I left there before the package arrived. I am in Texas now.

I finally started about five days of R.P. If nothing else, I'll be a good wife for sometime. Enough of this kidding. You are all anxious to know about what I am doing here. Well, I'm to work on the B-17 as a gunner's mechanic. We are learning the servicing and inspection of this ship. This course takes 97 days. I've finished 11 days already.

Leonard Deutsch  
(Local 142)

Let your answer to bombs be bonds.



# CUTTERS COLUMN

## LOCAL 10

By ISIDORE NAGLER, V. F. Manager, Local 10

The agreement in the blouse industry containing the wage increase for the cutters, reported in the last issue of "Justice," is expected to be formally ratified at a special meeting to be held on March 17.

The writer and Brother Falkman, who participated in the negotiations together with Charlin Kreindler, ILGWU vice president and manager of Local 25, are scheduled to address the blouse cutters and explain the salient points in the new agreement. An undivided approval is anticipated.

Four years ago, when the present administration took office, there were three grades of cutters with varying standards in the industry. Two years ago the separate grades were eliminated. The weekly minimums for machine cutters and markers were \$40 and \$47, respectively; the prevailing wage \$43 and \$50. During the period of the contract a 23 weekly increase was obtained. The new agreement increases the minimums to \$43 and \$50 and at the same time calls for a 7 1/2 per cent increase in prevailing wages, subject to approval by the War Labor Board. Pending a determination by the Board, the increases are being guaranteed by employers in a trust fund as of the first week in March. The trustees of this fund are the president and executive director of the employers' association and the managers of Locals 10 and 11.

Every blouse cutter has been furnished with a card on which he is to insert his weekly earnings. When a favorable decision is rendered by the Board, it is expected that the cutters will be able to use the card to facilitate the payments to the cutters of the amounts due them.

The employers' representatives have on the whole shown a reasonable attitude and by joining with the union in petitioning the War Labor Board for a wage increase are making a genuine contribution to industry stability.

From every point of view the agreement marks a step forward in the progress of labor-employer relations in the industry.

### Work March 6

On Saturday, March 6, the cutters in the underwear and coat trades worked for seven hours. The proceeds were contributed to the ILGWU War Relief Fund. The response was most gratifying. It fully came up to expectations and matched the excellent response two weeks earlier by the cutters in the cloak, dress, children's dress and blouse trades.

In the case of the cloak and dress trades, the collections are being made through the Joint Board; for the other branches, they are being made through Local 10. Those workers who have not made their payments through the shop will do so at the office of the local. In this way every member will have fulfilled an obligation which rests equally on each and every one of us.

After all the collections are tabulated, a report will be prepared and submitted to the membership. In the meantime, we can anticipate a contribution by Local 10 fully measuring up to its reputation for doing a job well, for generosity, and devotion to every righteous cause.

### "Scare Buying" Reflection

The shops in all branches are very busy, reflecting the added purchasing power of workers, particularly in defense areas and also the scare buying in apparel. The promulgation of the shoe rationing order and various predictions of rationing of apparel have caused a virtual run on stores in many areas throughout the country. Label sales in the coat and suit industry have continued at high levels.

The government has assured the public that apparel rationing is not being considered at present, but to date this has not retarded the ad-

vice buying by many consumers. Informed observers believe that despite the existence of heavy stocks of raw wool and cotton, rationing will become necessary either by the end of this year or next year. The purpose of rationing is to distribute the available goods equitably so that some will not obtain more than they require while others are unable to satisfy their needs.

At present the garment industry anticipates, within a few weeks, a price order covering next fall's apparel and a WPB order containing further restrictions on the features of garments, simplifying them in order to conserve fabrics.

It is interesting to note that the production of apparel has been declared "essential" by the War Manpower Commission in connection with its order calling on men to transfer from non-essential to essential activities.

## MONTREAL ILGWU HAILS NAGLER AT PALESTINE LABOR MEETING

Isidore Nagler, ILGWU vice president and manager of Cutters' Local 10 of New York City, was honored at a banquet arranged by a number of active members of the Montreal Cloakmakers' Union, upon his arrival to address the Montreal workers in behalf of the Palestine Labor Campaign.

At this banquet, on Saturday, February 13, Brother Nagler dealt with the problems of the Histadrut in the Near East, and urged the organized workers to support the organization that is fighting in the front lines in the struggle against Hitler in the Near East.

Attending as guests were the Toronto and Winnipeg delegates to the Dominion Planning and Co-ordinating Committee of the ILGWU locals in Canada; among them were

### Attention, Members LOCAL 10

REGULAR MEETING will take place on Monday, March 29 Right After Work Manhattan Center 34th St. bet. 8th and 9th Aves.

"A war job does not mean merely a job in aircraft or ships, ordinance or ammunition," says the Commission. "People must be housed and clothed and fed in wartime as well as peace. Essential civilian activities are on an equal plane with basic war industries in our war effort."

The interpretation to be placed on this statement and the extent to which it will be applied is as yet not clear. However, it indicates a trend in the thinking of government officials handling the manpower problem.

## Our Girls Make These 'Fatigue' Clothes



Second Lady, Ellen Louise Blinn, an Army Nurse, is shown at a class in Gas Mask Repair. She is wearing the new fatigue clothes, which have replaced the old starched white uniforms.

### INSIDE WASHINGTON

(Continued from Page 8)

group was behind the move to oust Donald Nelson as head of the War Production Board, and replace him with Bernard Baruch, who is a fervent advocate of wartime cashless Baruch, of course, has no interest in social management of industry. He is strictly a management man, but he argues for the greater wartime efficiency of the cartel.

Opponents of the Baruch program—who seem to have been successful in blocking his appointment as head of the WPB—point out that the cartel is the road not to socialism but to Fascism. Germany and Italy are the outstanding sponsors of the industrial cartel. The cartels are probably more efficient than our own slipshod "free enterprise." But so is the Gestapo more efficient than the New York Metropolitan Police Force.

The economic planners who favor "treating" the present economic status until after the war are not at all opposed to social or economic change, nor to its discussion. In fact, they feel that organized labor and liberal forces generally have the responsibility of putting forth an advanced social program, something equivalent to the Beveridge Report of Great Britain, around which to rally political support.

"Such a program must be something to galvanize the enthusiasm of the people at home, to serve as a hope for men in the armed forces, and a goal for the youth entering a world at war. Such a program, it is argued, might turn the tide for the New Deal, and turn it from the defensive to the offensive."

Proponents of this approach to the present situation are opposed to giving major emphasis to a "United Nations of the World" plan. Such a program is too much subject to political ridicule and attack. It is extremely difficult for an Administration in power to make a winning political play on an involved foreign policy issue. The opposition has all the advantages while the Administration's hands are tied by the requirements of international diplomacy. Good diplomacy makes bad politics. The opposition can say anything it wishes, while the spokesmen for the Administration must take care never to commit, involve, or offend a friendly foreign government.

Hence it is the "plan" to let internationalists like Dorothy Thompson, Walter Lippmann, Wendell Wilkie, and Governor Stuenkel carry the ball on this issue. A New Deal Administration would naturally take a liberal approach to the question of a United Nations arrange-

ment. The Administration's record is very clear on that subject.

But the fighting platform of liberalism in this country must be based mainly on domestic issues, to meet adequately the threat presented on domestic issues by the Reactionary Coalition. That, at least, is the viewpoint of the most level-headed thinkers in Washington.

### High Spots From Maryland-Va. Dist.

A full program of spring events for the ILGWU in Baltimore and in the Maryland-Virginia District has been announced by the newly elected Education Committee. First on the program is the union's participation in the special Sunday concert of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra on March 14. Through Mr. C. C. Campbell, manager of the orchestra, members of the ILGWU will secure tickets for the concert at half price. This is the first step towards a fuller participation of the workers in the musical activities of the city.

The second big event of the new campaign program will be the general membership meeting to be held on Friday evening, March 26. Speakers invited are Father Hayes of the National Catholic Welfare Conference, Morris Morris K. Leonard, and Rev. Bruce H. McDonald. They will speak on the topic "Labor in the War and the Peace."

The week-end of March 26 will bring the second meeting of the new Maryland-Virginia District Council to Baltimore. At this time, delegates from all the locals in Maryland, Virginia, and West Virginia will gather to work out the special program facing the union leaders of the War. The questions at hand are wage increases for the poorly paid garment workers in the small towns in the district to bring them in line with the cost of living, which also be discussed and acted upon.

Saturday night, February 26, was the occasion for much celebration by the membership of Local 263, at Danville, Va., when they gathered together at the Danville Hotel to install their officers. Leaders of the AFL and CIO in the area spoke at the installation banquet and Manager Angela Bamberg officiated. These were: Norman Post, president; Doris Saunders, secretary; and O. Earl Ruggan, chairman.

With the formation of the ILGWU local in Danville, plans are now under way to organize a central labor council in the city. The new ILGWU local is being backed by organized labor in the area for its active participation in labor and community affairs.

### The Cutters Made It Unanimous



The Cloak and Dress Cutters worked for ILGWU Relief on February 20, and the Miscellaneous mee did it on Saturday, March 6. Above is Morris Kornreich, 10' member, at machine in A. Blumenthal's shop, 256 West 38th Street, New York City.

# ...EDITORIAL NOTES...

## "Absenteeism"— Superheated Ballyhoo

Absenteeism has never been a problem in the garment industry. Insofar as garment-making is concerned, and this goes for the making of garments for military use as well, "absenteeism" is chiefly an academic gadfly buzzing lustily in the hospitable columns of the press and magnified out of proportions to the dimensions of a national calamity.

Still, because of the superheated ballyhoo given it in the newspapers, on the airwaves and even in Congress, this business of absenteeism assumes an importance to all American wage earners' and, certainly, to their organizations, the trade unions. Few will disagree that absence from work, when willful and avoidable is a nuisance and an abomination especially in war-work plants. Failure to report to work on a "blue Monday" after an over-lively Sunday always has been a source of annoyance in factories where team-work is the production routine. It is doubly inexcusable in times of emergency.

Corrective measures aimed at reducing avoidable or voluntary absences from work would doubtless be welcomed by every group in the industrial community, the labor unions included. The labor unions do not like absenteeism and are fighting it the best way they know how. What the unions, nevertheless, resent about this press and radio campaign is the insidious effort to convert it into an indictment against labor as a whole and against the trade unions themselves. What they resent about this propaganda is the rather threadbare effort to convert it into a smear against the labor organizations as if the latter were encouraging and abetting absence of their members from lathe and bench in essential plants.

The truth about this situation is that no one, least of all the most vociferous crusaders who are today clamoring for "work or fight" laws against the offending absentee, can state with any degree of accuracy how widespread absenteeism really is. Those who shout about it from the houseposts speak of "hundreds of millions of bombs" of "scores of destroyers" lost last year through waste caused by absenteeism. Obviously such figures are purely hypothetical, if not pure fantasy. Percentages of absenteeism as high as five or six are given for this or that factory or mill. Still, no effort is being made to separate cases of absence from work on account of illness, genuine over-fatigue, lack of proper housing, or transportation breakdowns from cases of willful abstaining from work caused by drunkenness, lack of mental discipline, low morale or similar reprehensible attributes.

What, nevertheless, does remain in the mind of the average newspaper reader or radio listener is a jumbled impression that labor is soldiering on the job in this critical period of our national life; that labor is selfish and short-sighted, concerned only with its own gain and interest. By contrast, the impression is created and carefully nursed and carried over, that management and plant owners are the sole patriotic and unselfish elements in industry, the only props of the great national effort to win the war.

That this picture is a ghastly distortion, that it is flying in the face of incontestable facts, need hardly be said. Absenteeism, annoying as it is and condemned by every right-thinking person in the country, is not a major hindrance to the national effort. It certainly is unfair and unjust to attach the stigma that goes with it to the twenty-odd millions of American workers who today are engaged in the great armament production program in every part of the land. Only the other day, Under Sec-

retary of War Patterson declared that our airplane factories had turned out the stupendous amount of 5,500 fighting aircraft of every description in the short month of February. If absenteeism were really the harrowing menace it is portrayed to be, such an immense output would have been unthinkable.

We suspect — and we do not hesitate to voice this suspicion — that this attempt to give all labor a black eye against an isolated few, here and there, are gumming up work in a plant by being absent from the bench when they should be on the job, is on a par with the technique employed by sundry anti-New Deal elements in public life who are attacking the people in the driver's seat in Washington by slinging at them the epithet of "bureaucrat." "Absenteeism" and "bureaucracy" both are distasteful terms to the average citizen; both are adroit smear tools which give their users a wide pattern for indiscriminate mischief and wholesale sniping—at labor and at the national administration.

## Our Wage Scale Revisions

At the moment, a number of ILGWU affiliates have cast into the War Labor Board's wage hopper an assortment of requests for pay scale revisions. With but few exceptions, these requests have come up to either Washington or to the regional WLB offices on joint applications of the unions and the employers directly involved in these wage negotiations.

It is expected that most, if not all, of these requests will be granted. Some have already been approved by the Labor Board. Perhaps, the most salient point about these applications for an upward revision of wages is that their fairness has generally been recognized by the various employing groups of our industry. Even in the New York dress industry, where the request for improved scales has not received the joint sanction of both parties, the employers' associations have freely admitted the justice of the union's position. The dress employers have withheld approval largely because the union had refused to become a party to their own request that OPA revise its profit-margin limitation order issued last December. Without disputing the merits of the employers' side, the union has refused to lend its pressure on the ground that it cannot be involved in a demand for higher profits on the part of management. This, the union has underscored, is clearly outside its legitimate sphere of activity.

As we stated above, we hope that these requests by ILGWU affiliates will be granted without undue delay. No one has as yet ventured to assert that this move for a wage equalization in the women's wear trades is colored with desire on the part of the union or its members to "enrich" themselves at the expense of either the employers or the consumers. It is glaringly evident that the cost of living has materially outstripped the earnings of our workers and their wage scales. Our requests for "wage equality" is moderate, fair and wise. It is time to revise.

## The Size of Our Army

How great should our Army be? This question is beginning deeply to agitate America. Obviously, it is a question in which the workers are no less interested than any group of our population. We should like to quote a paragraph from a recent statement by President Green of the American Federation of Labor on this subject:

"Modern wars are won by production as well as by fighting, and by morale. These three—production, fighting, morale—form the interrelated trinity of victory. . . . The size of the Army of the United States should not be measured by the size of the armies in Germany, Russia or Great Britain. Our job is greatly different from any of these. We are not only fighting but producing. We are the arsenal of democracy. We must fully equip an adequate army, and we must at the same time send millions of tons of planes, tanks, material to supply the armies of our Allies.

"What a tragedy it would be, if, at the end of 1943, we find ourselves with millions of trained men in uniform—soldiers who cannot be transported to fighting fronts, while our industrial force is too small to man war plants as well as produce food and clothing for ourselves and the nations dependent upon our civilian industries. . . . The way to victory is to preserve the balance between production, fighting and morale."

In the long run, of course, it will be the military leadership that will determine the size of our fighting forces. That is as it should be. Still, while Congress studies this problem and the army heads are making up their minds, the voice of labor on this matter, objective and non-partisan, is relevant and timely.

## They Do It Well In Britain

A clear picture of British industrial conditions, showing very few dark shadows, is presented in the annual survey just published by the Ministry of Labor. The survey takes account of facts relating to employment, wages, work hours, cost of living and trade disputes over the whole year. It is a summary of facts no one interested in labor's experiences in our own country during our first year of war should miss.

This British 1942 survey shows, beyond the shadow of a doubt, that in a year of maximum strain and effort, British industry displayed a wonderful stability, and a still unexhausted capacity to provide the means of improving the standards of the workers. It shows, in the first place, that unemployment has practically disappeared from the British scene. Rates of wages, as well as the average level of earnings, are still rising. Although there are wide variations in different industries, the over-all increase in wage rates is about 32 per cent since the war began. The survey indicates, further, that the wartime cost of living rise is about 23 per cent.

The British have been in the war, in a total war, for more than three and a half years. The picture one may draw from this survey—let there be no mistake about it—is not a picture of abundant living. Rather it is a sketch of well-rationed and well-regulated scarcity. It is an encouraging picture, nevertheless, a balance sheet which registers endurance, grit, adaptability and fine home front courage. The great labor movement in the British Isles is making this picture of a national coordinated effort possible.

# Let freedom wring!

